

THE TIMES

Tomorrow

Name your price
What's in a name? More than the price of a £1,000 election deposit, says Peter Kellner

Have a care
The ready-wrapped child minder, Bailey Morris looks at the American child-care business

One up
Can Liverpool hold on to their one-goal lead away against Benfica in Lisbon? Stuart Jones previews the match

The woman least likely
Nicholas Shakespeare talks to a woman who lays claim to the British throne

Ploughshares
Jock Bruce-Gardyne on how to make money by not doing what you weren't going to do anyway

Likud loses majority in Israel

Israel's ruling Likud coalition last night lost its overall majority in the Knesset when the small Tami party broke away and said it would table a motion today calling for an early general election.

Women evicted

Council workmen and women anti-nuclear protesters struggled at Greenham Common as the women were evicted from the air base's Blue Gate.

Women wait, page 3

Last hope

Lebanese leaders at the reconciliation talks in Lausanne have suggested one final night-time conference session, but this is thought unlikely to produce any concrete agreement.

BBC questions

The Warsaw correspondents of the BBC and The New York Times were questioned by Polish security police to co-operation with an investigation against a human rights lawyer.

Tube strike

London's bus and Tube workers are to strike on Wednesday next week, and confrontation seems likely on the railways over a 4 per cent pay and productivity offer.

Adams charge

Three men will appear in court in Belfast today charged with the attempted murder of Mr Gerry Adams, MP.

YTS doubts

More than 100,000 school-leavers have chosen to remain unemployed rather than join the Youth Training Scheme and the programme's future strategy could be in doubt.

Election gloom

Few people in the guerrilla zone of rural El Salvador believe Sunday's elections will bring any improvements. In many places they may not take place at all.

Awacs sent

The United States has sent two Awacs surveillance aircraft to Egypt to combat air attacks against Sudan. Libya has been accused of raiding Omdurman last Friday.

Hospitals threat

At least two general hospitals will close and 2,000 beds be withdrawn because of the population shift away from London.

Mirror setback

Falling profits, revision of the prospectus and a continuing pension fund dispute are likely to delay the £100m flotation of Mirror Group Newspapers.

Leader page, 13

Letters: On defence, from Lord Lewin; wages council, from Mr C Pood and Ms E MacLennan; Budget, from Lord Rossberry. Leading articles: Miners; extradition in Ireland; Sudan. Features, pages 8, 10 and 12. A government breakthrough in the control of industrial disputes? Bernard Levin on the siren's song: Roger Scruton, hails old-time service; Spectrum: the men who would be king; Fashion; the London look. Obituary, page 14. Mr Jan van der Post, Mr D P Bliss.

Home News	2-4	Diary	12
Overseas	5-6	Law Report	15
Arts	14, 21	Parliament	4
AFS	15	Science	14
Bridge	14	Sport	22-24
Business	18-22	TV & Radio	27
Church	14	Theatre, etc	27
Court	14	Universities	14
Crossword	28	Weather	28

Britain stands firm on principles at EEC summit

From Julian Haviland and Ian Murray, Brussels

A blueprint for a lasting solution to each of the most urgent problems threatening the European Community was being urgently put together into the small hours of today, after an unexpectedly positive opening session.

The heads of government set senior officials to work on a draft for agreement later today, when the summit is to end.

The text is to deal with Britain's two main demands, a fairer budget for all and light control of all community spending, particularly that of agriculture.

Although several delegations spoke of a will to agree, Mrs Margaret Thatcher upset some by her manner, as she has often done before. Her Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, who is not often moved to rudeness, said she was "unrepentant and inflexible".

There seemed to be early agreement in principle that there must be a new system for calculating how much each member state should pay, but the summit leaders adjourned for dinner with no agreement on figures.

The officials were also set the task of writing an outline agreement on increasing the Community's resources, although Mrs Thatcher repeated, in her first intervention, that the Community would have to "put its house in order" before she would assent to any increase.

There were two early indications that the progress which eluded the Ten at Athens might be achieved at last. The first was the continuing secrecy, with the participants keeping their negotiating hands concealed from

the outside world well after the talks had started.

The heads of government appeared intent on giving themselves and their partners the maximum room for manoeuvre.

The second snag was in the refusal of ministers in their public words to countenance failure.

The spokesman for President Mitterrand of France, on whose shoulders as chairman the main burden rests, said the first round of contributions had shown an excellent, positive attitude.

The summit, which he said had been described as a last ditch summit, was rather the "summit of truth. Given Europe's political, economic, intellectual and cultural clout the break-up of the Community is unthinkable".

Another deadlock at Athens was equally unthinkable, the spokesman added. President Mitterrand, in his secret preparatory bilateral

talks, had formed the impression that each member government was conscious of the need for Europe's cohesion, and intent on resolving the issues.

British spokesmen said their government preferred to talk of success, not failure. Britain approached the talks in a positive and determined frame of mind.

The British Government wanted a settlement, but not on "any old terms" and not by compromising principles.

The talks began briskly, to the satisfaction of the French presidency whose latest draft proposals, circulated late last week, were the basis for discussion.

The first discussion of "imbalances", which means the budget problem, was completed at high speed.

Mrs Thatcher said the French paper was "useful" but she insisted it needed to be both clarified and changed if it was to form the basis for a settlement.

She complained of the "obscurity" in the paper's definition of the gap between what Britain pays and receives, and expressed anxiety that the text as it stood underestimated by about £120m the amount Britain pays.

If that interpretation were accepted then the British contribution would have to be adjusted accordingly. Mrs Thatcher repeated her offer, made in Athens, to pay a net contribution (at present rates) of between £240m and £300m.

"My attitude is strictly practical," she said. "It is the result that matters."

Continued on back page, col 5

National savings rates cut

By Peter Wilson-Smith

The Government last night withdrew the 26th issue of National Savings Certificates and is cutting interest rates on other National Savings accounts.

The move has been widely expected because the falling interest rates had left National Savings paying much more to investors than competing forms of savings. There was some surprise when the Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, did not announce lower rates in the Budget, the restrictions announced last week by building societies and banks made a cut inevitable.

The interest on income bonds and deposit bonds is coming down from 11 to 10 per cent before tax from May 3, and the investment account rate will fall from 11 to 9.25 per cent from April 2.

A 27th issue of savings certificates will be launched on April 5, paying 7.25 per cent tax free compared with 8.26 per cent on the 26th issue. The new issue is worth at least 10.4 per cent to taxpayers, who are allowed to invest a maximum of £5,000. Each £25 unit will be worth £35.48 after five years.

The amount savers can put in either income bonds or investment accounts was reduced in the Budget from £200,000 to £50,000.

Rates paid by National Savings are still much higher than ordinary seven-day deposit accounts with banks, which now offer 5.25 per cent before tax.

Homeowners are rushing to beat the June 1 deadline when VAT becomes payable on building improvements. An official of the Halifax Building Society said yesterday: "Last year we lent £325m in further advances on existing mortgages. Now we are expecting at least 10 per cent more".

TUC continues to boycott Neddy

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

TUC leaders decided last night to continue their boycott of the National Economic Development Council (Neddy) in protest at the Government's decision to ban trade unions at the Government Communications Headquarters in Cheltenham. The boycott will be reviewed on a month by month basis but is expected to last until the annual congress in September.

The decision, by a 25 to 16 majority, was taken despite pressure from moderates that the TUC ought to return to Neddy in order to represent union members' interest in the economic forum which includes ministers and representatives of the Confederation of British Industry.

The general council decided, however, not to boycott meetings of the Neddy industry committees, which conduct surveys of more than 40 industrial sectors.

The decision was taken in spite of an appeal by Mr Len Murray, the general secretary, to end the boycott because, he argued, the unions had made their point. He refused to elaborate on the decision last night except to say that it had

been taken in the knowledge of the available alternatives.

Mr Terry Duffy, president of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers and a member of the TUC team on Neddy, was opposed to the withdrawal but said that he was in some ways satisfied that the boycott may only be temporary.

However, other general council members indicated their satisfaction with the decision not to attend the monthly Neddy meetings. Mr William Keys, the general secretary of the print union Soga' 82, said: "I have never believed that the TUC have done anything for working people."

Supporters of the continued TUC boycott were unconcerned at the prospect of the Government winding up the council if the TUC policy was not changed. It is also expected that there will be an important debate at the Brighton congress in September on the whole question of relationships with the Government.

The TUC has decided that it will continue to be represented on many bodies and organizations on which government nominees also sit.

Heath rejects microchip diet

By Anthony Bevin, Political Correspondent

Mr Edward Heath last night warned the Government that the country could not survive on a diet of microchips alone.

Intervening in the final day of the Commons debate on the Budget, the former Prime Minister pointed out that Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, had spoken out against state intervention - before announcing a series of measures designed to help high technology industry.

But he told ministers that it was wrong to decide that the economy should be geared exclusively to an era of services, at the expense of manufacturing.

"We cannot just live on a diet of microchips and home computers," he said. "When we are all in this country taking in each other's washing who is going to do something which is going to pay for the imports it is essential for us to have?"

Mr Heath said that steel, shipbuilding, car-making and engineering had not become

outdated; they were essential and vital and they should not be neglected.

Earlier, opening the debate, Mr Tebbit said that the Chancellor had delivered a Budget enterprise, for risk-taking and for employment because it was a business Budget.

Mr Peter Shore, the Opposition spokesman, said it was ludicrous to claim that it was a Budget for jobs, it set the scene for a cutback in public spending and an accelerated sell-off of public sector assets.

"In short, the present law and the power of the Govern-

ment to enforce that law means that defence by councillors or others in Liverpool cannot have the effect of preventing job losses or of securing additional resources," Mr Kinnoch said.

That reality understandably infuriated opinion in a city.

Mr Kinnoch's statement will infuriate some on the left. Merseyside Labour Briefing, a far left grouping within the party, accused him of Shadow Cabinet leaks to distance the party from the city council's fight. "It is Neil Kinnoch that is out of line, not Liverpool," it said.

The Labour group leaders say that at the March 29 rate-making meeting they will press ahead despite a refusal by six of their members to back an illegal budget.

The six would be enough to deprive Labour of its majority. The party leadership still hopes the group will adopt one of the "practical budget alternatives" open to it.

That appeared unlikely after yesterday's meeting. Mr Tony Meiburn, Liverpool Labour Party's president, said the group would continue to campaign for maximum possible support for its budget, which, he said, the party was elected last May.

It would continue to seek a declaration of support from the parliamentary leadership.



Scuffles broke out yesterday between miners and police outside the NUM's Barnsley headquarters. More than 1,000 miners had gathered, fearing that High Court bailiffs would arrive. (Photograph: Brian Harris).

Kinnock rejects Liverpool plea

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr Neil Kinnoch yesterday dissociated himself from the plans of the ruling Labour group on Liverpool City Council to confront the Government by making an illegal rate this month.

After meeting Mr Kinnoch at the Commons, Liverpool's Labour Leaders reaffirmed their determination to go ahead with their attempt to force through their policy of refusing to match spending and the rates.

Mr Kinnoch, who during the meeting had refused the councillor's request to make a public declaration supporting the intended action said afterwards: "I refuse to make what would, in the circumstances, be an idle gesture."

He said that because councils could not deliberately plan for a budget deficit and because government controls over local councils were so severe, the expenditure required for implementing the Labour group's policies would force the city council into illegality.

If the council tried to operate its proposed policies, the present Labour councillors and any successors who tried to implement those policies would lose office and authority would be taken over by Conservatives or Liberals, or government officials.

"In short, the present law and the power of the Govern-

ment to enforce that law means that defence by councillors or others in Liverpool cannot have the effect of preventing job losses or of securing additional resources," Mr Kinnoch said.

That reality understandably infuriated opinion in a city.

Mr Kinnoch's statement will infuriate some on the left. Merseyside Labour Briefing, a far left grouping within the party, accused him of Shadow Cabinet leaks to distance the party from the city council's fight. "It is Neil Kinnoch that is out of line, not Liverpool," it said.

The Labour group leaders say that at the March 29 rate-making meeting they will press ahead despite a refusal by six of their members to back an illegal budget.

The six would be enough to deprive Labour of its majority. The party leadership still hopes the group will adopt one of the "practical budget alternatives" open to it.

That appeared unlikely after yesterday's meeting. Mr Tony Meiburn, Liverpool Labour Party's president, said the group would continue to campaign for maximum possible support for its budget, which, he said, the party was elected last May.

It would continue to seek a declaration of support from the parliamentary leadership.

Continued on back page, col 4

Coal board pulls back from court confrontation

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

A successful police operation to escort 40,000 miners through "flying picket" lines in the moderate coalfields yesterday prompted the National Coal Board to pull back from a High Court confrontation with the Yorkshire pitmen's union.

Despite continuing defiance of injunctions granted last week against secondary picketing by Yorkshire miners, lawyers for the NCB told Mr Justice Caulefield that it "would not be constructive" to proceed with an action for contempt.

The motion for contempt was adjourned generally, which allows the coal board to return to the High Court with a fresh complaint after giving the National Union of Mineworkers two days' notice. Management sources insisted that the action had not been abandoned.

Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the NUM, said, however, that the board's climbdown was due to the "tremendous solidarity" of the miners, 75 per cent of whom were now on strike.

The lessons for the miners and for all workers is clear. Through solid unity and with maximum trade union support we can save pits and jobs, while resisting Tory anti-union legislation.

The massive and unprecedented police presence in coalfields, where the men have voted to work on, allowed the NCB to open up 44 of its 176 pits for normal coal production at the first shift yesterday. That fell to 42 later as some were "picked out" and leaders of 10,000 North Derbyshire miners called their men out on strike, even though they had voted by a majority of 16 not to take industrial action.

Sporadic picketing by Yorkshire miners was reported by the board, though not to the High Court, in Nottinghamshire, but most pickets walked through the picket lines to restart output after last week's disruption.

The relatively peaceful return to work, and the anti-strike ballots in 10 coalfields over the past few days were cited yesterday by Mr Tom Morrison QC - as "important developments" in the dispute since Mr Justice Nolan granted injunctions last Wednesday against the Yorkshire NUM for organising unlawful picketing.

"Since the first shift, most if not all, of those who have sought to go to work have been able to do so", he told Mr Justice Caulefield.

The judge interjected: "They have, had some assurance, haven't they? Counsel replied: 'Yes'."

Mr Morrison went on: "The board's hope is that in the light of these two events it will now be possible for a position to be reached in which those who wish to work may do so without the necessity for substantial police protection."

While the five-minute court hearing took place, more than 1,000 Yorkshire miners massed outside their union headquarters in Huddersfield Road, Barnsley, evidently fearing that High Court bailiffs would move in to exact heavy fines for contempt of the no-picketing orders.

They eventually dispersed after scuffles with police, and Mr Jack Taylor, president of the Yorkshire NUM, welcomed the coal board's withdrawal of the action for contempt.

"On the surface, this appears to be a victory for the Yorkshire miners and those who have been supporting them. But we are under no illusions. The main struggle, against pit closures and poor jobs, will have to be continued with renewed determination."

As tensions in the industry began to diminish last night, union leaders were taking stock of their next move.

The moderates want an early recall of the union's national executive committee, leading to a secret pithead ballot on pay and pit closures.

Mr Scargill and the union's general secretary, Mr Peter Heathfield, are considering requests for an emergency executive gathering.

Though the crop of ballots last week produced only one majority for industrial action, the strike is spreading.

Continued on back page, col 4

McGlinchey Twenty held in court after £3m drug swoop

Dominic McGlinchey, who was extradited from the Republic of Ireland two days ago, appeared in court in Ulster last night, accused of murdering a grandmother.

Mr McGlinchey, aged 30, who was described as an unemployed mechanic, is accused of murdering Mrs Hester McMullan, aged 63, at Tombride in March 1977. He was remanded in custody for a week by the Ballymena court. Leading article, page 13

Cannabis resin, valued at more than £3m at street prices, was seized on a motorway service area yesterday.

Twenty people were arrested after the raid on the Scratchwood Services of the M1 just north of London, and subsequent searches of properties in London, Middlesex, Hertfordshire and Essex.

The drugs, weighing one and a half tons, were seized as they were being transferred from a cross-Channel ferry to a van.

CHARLES CHURCH

Quality homes of character

Camberley (0276) 681661-2

Government to invest £180m to stimulate microelectronics

By Bill Johnstone, Technology Correspondent

The Government is to invest about £180m in high technology industries between now and 1990 in anticipation of generating a further £1,000m.

The package's mainstay is a £120m investment in the Microelectronics Industry Support Programme, an extension of a project set up in 1976. More than £55m has been invested under the original scheme and has attracted, according to government estimates, a further £270m in the high technology area.

The money will assist British companies in developing advanced microchip design.

Outlining the scheme, Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister for Information Technology, said: "More is happening in the electronics industry in Britain than anywhere else in Europe, both in production and applications. Between 1978 and 1983 the production of microchip in the United Kingdom has more than trebled.

"We have caught up West Germany as the largest consumer of microchips in Western Europe, accounting for 29 per cent of total European consumption."

The software (computer programs) scheme was given another £12m to allow the project to encourage development of software with export potential.

That scheme was created in

1972. It had little impact for more than a decade, but was relaunched two years ago. Since then about 160 projects have been given a total of £21m.

Britain has one of the fastest-growing high technology sectors. It is intended that this investment programme will assist manufacturers in designing British products around British-developed microelectronics.

Mr Baker said: "We must maintain our lead and extend it. In the remainder of the 1990s the electronics industry will need to invest £1b in the development and production of integrated circuits.

The Government has invested more than £100m in grants and loans in Iamos, the microchip company, and is trying to attract further investment from the private sector.

Part of the high technology package announced will mean another 25 information technology centres for training unemployed youths in microelectronics and computers being added to the planned network of 150.

A further £20m will also be available to small companies in textiles, clothing, and footwear industries to invest in advanced technology machinery and another £20m for the development of modern manufacturing technology.

Heseltine to scrap intelligence post

By Our Defence Correspondent

The Ministry of Defence's top intelligence posts are to be rationalized as part of the efforts by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, to eliminate duplication in senior jobs (our Defence Correspondent writes).

There are two top intelligence appointments in the ministry, Director General of Intelligence and Deputy Chief of Defence Staff (Intelligence). It is understood they will be replaced by a single appointment of a chief of defence intelligence later this year.

The present Director General of Intelligence is Vice-Admiral Sir Roy Hildyard, Air Marshal Sir Michael Armitage is Deputy Chief of Defence Staff (Intelligence).

The jobs are seen as being largely interchangeable, with Sir Roy concentrating on running the intelligence department and Sir Michael reporting to Field Marshal Sir Edwin Bramall, the Chief of the Defence Staff.

The name of the new chief of defence intelligence has not yet been announced, but it is said that Sir Michael is front-runner.

Last week Mr Heseltine announced radical plans to strengthen the position of the central defence staffs in their relations with the individual services, and to eliminate duplication of work in senior posts.



At arm's length: Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, inspecting the latest version of the remote control bomb disposal machine used by the Army, at Morfax Ltd in Mitcham, south London, yesterday.

Cut in youth training 'threatens pledge to school-leavers'

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Cuts proposed by the Government in the Youth Training Scheme could throw into doubt the scheme's ability to meet the commitment to provide every unemployed 16-year-old school-leaver with the offer of a place within six months of leaving school, it was said yesterday.

The director of the National Council for Voluntary Organizations, Mr Nicholas Hinton, added that worthwhile schemes for disadvantaged young people would also be put at risk by the Government's decision to overrule proposals by the Manpower Services Commission.

Unsettled at the progress of the £1,000m scheme, now six months old was expressed yesterday in several quarters and the Government's advisers on the scheme have started a review of its operations and will put forward suggested improvements by the summer.

Latest figures show that about 110,000 young people have chosen to remain unemployed rather than take up the offer of a place on the scheme which provides a 12-month "foundation" course of on and off-the-job training.

A report from the Council called into question the willingness of its members to continue supporting the scheme if the Government insists on cuts of up to 30 per cent in the section of the scheme devoted mainly to community projects.

That was followed by a survey conducted by Youthaid a pressure group working on behalf of young people, which

said that unemployed young people were rejecting the scheme because it was being run on the cheap and provided only a 50-50 chance of a full-time job at the end.

The Manpower Services Commission, which operates the scheme, has responded to criticisms and the Government's insistence in cuts in the second year of the programme by instituting a review by the Youth Training Board which advises on its operating.

Originally the scheme was to provide 460,000 places for young people, but so far only 325,000 have been taken up. The target for places next year has already been cut to 413,000.

The Government and the commission have argued that the main reason for the shortfall has been that young people have decided to stay at school for further education or have been successful in finding a full-time job.

The Youth aid report says, however, that Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, gave figures to the Commons showing that one third of the 330,000 unemployed 16-year-olds had decided to stay on the dole.

Mr Paul Lewis, Youthaid director, said last night: "We hope the Government will take our report to heart and consider ways of improving the training and offering something positive at the end. Otherwise the Youth Training Scheme is doomed to mediocrity."

YOUTH TRAINING SCHEME

	Places offered (Jan 84)	Enthru (Jan 84)	Proposed for next year
Industry-based	319,537	226,900	322,874
Community-based	90,272	74,360	71,554
Mainly in colleges	32,047	23,800	18,576
Total	441,856	325,060	413,004

Source: Manpower Services Commission

Naval refits leak starts mole hunt

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

The Ministry of Defence has begun an inquiry into the leaking of a report recommending that the refitting of British warships and Polaris submarines should be placed in the hands of private contractors.

The report, by Mr Peter Levene, personal adviser to Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, has come into the hands of Mr Gordon Brown, Labour MP for Dunfermline East.

Mr Brown said yesterday that the report recommended that, although the Ministry of Defence should retain the ownership of the Royal Dockyards at Devonport and Rosyth, private industry should be allowed to tender for the right to operate them.

Mr Brown has tabled 17 questions for written answer in the Commons. He criticized the report for failing to consider the issue of national security raised by the possibility of allowing private contractors to carry out maintenance work on Polaris submarines.

He said that the six-page typewritten report did not put forward any arguments to demonstrate inefficiency in the dockyards.

He was concerned that Mr Levene, who is chairman of an important defence contractor, United Scientific Holdings, and vice-chairman of the Defence Manufacturers' Association, was in a position to recommend giving £500m of work a year to the private sector.

"It is clear to me that there is a conflict of interest between Mr Levene's private position and his work as an adviser to the Ministry of Defence," Mr Brown said.

The report indicates that Mr Levene's proposals have received the informal approval of the Admiralty Board of the Defence Council, and that he is now preparing a more detailed study which will be completed by the end of this month.

The report is understood to say that the efficiency of the dockyards cannot be judged because the accounting system is "entirely meaningless" in commercial terms.

The Ministry of Defence said it appeared that the document had been given unauthorized distribution and inquiries were being made to discover the source.

Police switch search for McGlinchey wife to Eire

Detectives throughout Ireland are still searching for the wife of Dominic McGlinchey who is wanted for questioning in connection with terrorist crimes in the North (Richard Ford writes from Belfast).

Mrs Mary McGlinchey is also wanted by the police in the Republic in connection with the false imprisonment of an officer in co Cork last December.

At that time it was believed that Mrs McGlinchey, from Toome, co Antrim, was heavily pregnant and police think she may be in a safe house in the Republic rather than as rumoured in France. Royal Ulster Constabulary want to question her in connection with the murder of Police Constable Colin Carson at a security check point in Cookstown, in co Tyrone last May and think she can help them identify a woman who fired a volley of shots over the coffin of Gerard Mallon, an Irish National Liberation Army terrorist. He died last August during an abortive ambush at Dungannon, co Tyrone.

Leading article, page 13

Gerry Adams out of hospital

Mr Gerry Adams, the Sinn Féin leader, left hospital yesterday, five days after being shot and wounded in Belfast. He has been under constant guard at the city's Royal Victoria Hospital since he was hit in the shoulder, arm and neck.

Observer inquiry

A Scotland Yard report on allegations that a former Ministry of Defence official leaked information to *The Observer* is being studied by the Director of Public Prosecution (DPP), Stewart Tiedler writes.

The report was confirmed yesterday by a spokesman for Sir Thomas Hetherington, the DPP, after the *Daily Mail* reported allegations by a former member of the ministry that he was paid £1,000 by *The Observer* for information on which two articles were based last autumn. The man admitted he had been interviewed by the police.

The spokesman for the DPP said an interim report had been received from Det. Chief Supt Ronald Hardy, of Scotland Yard's CI department, and investigations were continuing.

Rail strike likely as unions offered 4%

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The prospect of a further confrontation on the railways over pay and productivity has emerged last night after British Rail made a 4 per cent offer tied to union acceptance of fundamental changes in working practices.

British Rail set a deadline of April 16 for agreement by the unions to the productivity changes, which were first proposed nearly four years ago. There seems little chance of early union approval of the offer.

The pay offer came as railway and other transport unions called a one-day strike at London Transport on Wednesday next week as part of the TUC's week of protest over the Government's plans for curtailing the powers of local government.

The strike call, which has to be ratified by the executives of the unions involved, would halt all bus and Tube travel in the capital. The decision was taken against the advice of public service unions who fear it could prove counter-productive.

A joint meeting yesterday of the TUC's local government and transport industries committees heard arguments from the white-collar unions that a strike would threaten services which the TUC was arguing that the Government was questioning. It was also pointed out that the strike, originally planned for next Thursday, would prevent many people

getting to a TUC-organized demonstration in London on that day.

The meeting last night of the London Transport trade unions committee accepted the need not to detract from the March 29 demonstration but called on all employees to strike on March 28 "to show our abhorrence at the impending destruction of our industry and jobs of our members".

The British Rail pay offer would cost £60m a year. The board has told the unions that it is prepared to consider five variations on allocating the 4 per cent to take account of improving the position of the low-paid and meeting union claims for extra holidays.

The main disagreement centres on the three productivity improvements. Mr James Knapp, the general secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen, said last night that the offer had been rejected because British Rail was asking railway workers to pay for their own increase.

The three changes demanded by the board are: introduction of driver-only operation on freight trains, extending driver-only operation of passenger trains from the controversial Bedford to St Pancras line to the Great Northern suburban service from Kings Cross to east Hertfordshire, and removal of the second man from locomotive cabs.

Crisis in the coalfields

Police mobilization will cost councils and public millions

By Stewart Tiedler

The police mobilization to meet the miners' picketing is likely to cost millions of pounds.

On Sunday the operation was estimated to have cost £1.5m. Yesterday, another £500,000 was spent covering the Nottingham area with 3,000 extra officers.

Precise figures were not available yesterday at the National Recording Centre, the operational headquarters based in Scotland Yard.

Mr Andrew Sloan, chief constable of Bedfordshire and deputy head of the centre, said that too many factors were involved.

The bill will be presented to the police authorities in the Midlands whose chief constables asked for assistance: Derbyshire; Leicestershire; Nottinghamshire and Warwickshire, have a total strength of 6,673 officers. They can be supplemented by up to 8,000 officers available to the centre.

They are members of support units created by every force over the past few years. The units, containing one or two inspectors, two sergeants and 20 constables, are trained in riot and public order duties and can be mobilized rapidly.

Up to 17 forces have been asked for help under a mutual aid scheme laid down in the Police Act, 1964. Not all the forces have been named, but they include Thames Valley, Gloucestershire, West Midlands and West Mercia, who were yesterday providing extra men for the Warwick force.

In all Warwick fielded 1,000 men, its total strength is 920, but the other three forces would not say how many were helping or where they came from.

The National Recording Centre, founded in 1972, has been opened four or five times, including an industrial dispute

in the prison service and the Papal visit in 1982. Officers were mobilized for the riots in the summer of 1981.

When planning started last week, Mr Lawrence Byford, the Chief Inspector of Constabulary, went to Nottingham. He returned to London on Sunday night and yesterday the Home Office said that his role had been to report to the Home Secretary on police action.

Another inspector of constabulary is a member of the centre's staff and, according to the 1981 report by Mr Byford's predecessor, is a director of operations.

Kent miners leaders denounced the police presence in the coalfields yesterday as "a paramilitary operation" that broke new ground in industrial disputes. (Our Labour Editor writes).

Area officials of the National Union of Mineworkers complained that cars carrying flying pickets to the south Midlands National Coal Board area had been stopped by police before they left the county on suspicion that they could be going to break the law.

Mr Malcolm Pitt, area president said: "What is happening is bringing the law into grave disrepute. That is our charge against the government. This is a paramilitary operation quite different to anything we have seen in this country before."

"We are not in a state of emergency, in fact we are in a state of normality. This operation is a complete breach with past concepts of civil policing. The police are making assumptions about people driving on the public highway. They are assuming an intention to break the law which I do not think can be argued."

The Kent miners, who stopped Bagworth colliery in Leicestershire last week, said

that their picket was lawful under the Employment Act 1980 because they confined their activities to pits in the same NCB administrative area.

"We are talking about members of the NUM in the same region of which Kent is an integrated unit. We are asking our members to approach other members of the union in the South Midlands to discuss common problems and our approach to them."

Kent, which has fewer than 2,000 NUM members, has been sending out a handful of pickets to selected pits.

Kent miners have been out on strike for 10 days over the threat to two of their three pits, Snowdon and Tilmanstone, threatened with closure and the loss of 1,000 jobs as part of rationalization in the South Midlands area.

The men have not had a coalfield ballot but mass meetings attended by a substantial majority, voted heavily to stop work.

Local union officials are working at Transport and General Workers Union offices in London and asking for support from other unions.

Railwaymen and train drivers have promised not to move coal that normally goes to Kingsnorth power station and to cement and paper works.

The Scottish coal field remained idle yesterday. Only 20 of its 14,000 miners crossed picket lines at six collieries.

There will be talks today between the NUM, the railway and steelworkers unions, the National Union of Seamen and the Transport and General Workers to raise further support for the miners' and strengthen the blockade against imported coal and the movement of coal within Britain.

Peter Walker probably has more enthusiasm for the coal industry than the NUM believes.

To burn coal, industry needs boilers specifically designed for the purpose and the Association of Shell Boilermakers has found it unlikely that coal will replace oil or gas in small industrial units because of the space needed to store coal boilers and because coal boilers have to be larger than others.

Nevertheless, orders for new coal-fired boilers increased by 16.4 per cent in 1981. Ten years previously coal-fired boilers increased their market share by less than 1 per cent.

More relevant is the age of the industrial boilers now in use. Sussex University's Science Policy Research Unit has examined the use of coal-fired boilers and found that though many of them are of an age at which they should be replaced, they are being used in industries which are in decline.

The cost of their replacement is likely to be the final straw for the companies involved.

Industrial demand for new coal-fired boilers, therefore, will increase only when existing oil or gas-fired boilers need replacing.

The Monopolies Commission has suggested that a small amount of this increase will come from existing customers and that the majority will come from industry moving to coal for the first time.

The recent transfer of responsibility for administering the Government's coal-conversion scheme has been transferred from the Department of Industry, where it was never enthusiastically promoted, to the Department of Energy. Mr

Two reasons why Britain's coal industry will be booming by the year 2000

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The future of coal as an energy source in Britain depends on the action of two men. Mr Arthur Scargill is not one of them, and, if it is any personal consolation to him, neither is Mr Ian MacGregor.

The president of the National Union of Mineworkers and the chairman of the National Coal Board will both decide how the British coal industry develops in the short-term. Both share the view that industrial coal consumption must be stimulated and both have the vision to look beyond the present glut of oil to the time when British coal will be among the world's major and cheapest energy sources.

However, in the medium term it will be the chairman of two other nationalized industries, the Central Electricity Generating Board the British Gas Corporation, who will play a significant role.

The NCB now depends on the electricity supply industry for its existence. The CEBG takes more than 70 per cent of the NCB's output, although its present chairman, Sir Walter Marshall, is a firm enthusiast for nuclear power. He came from the UK Atomic Energy Authority and makes no secret of envying his French counter-

part, who has been able to build more nuclear power stations in the 1980s than there are in all Britain.

The CEBG has changed its policy on coal purchases in the past year. It still takes the bulk from the NCB, but has cut its guaranteed lift from the pits from 65 million tonnes to 60 million tonnes a year and has broken the link between the price it pays and the annual inflation rate.

The Government now pays £60m a year to the electricity industry so that it will not import cheaper Australian coal under a long-term contract. (This coal is stored in Holland, although in mole-hill heaps compared to the mountains of UK coal now at the power stations.)

Sir Walter is still convinced, however, that the power industry will increase its reliance on coal. "The development of a viable coal industry in the UK, producing coal economically is something as dear to my heart as it is to Mr MacGregor's. Cheap coal means cheap electricity."

British Gas, having had the good fortune to find natural gas on its doorstep, abandoned coal as a feedstock, but had continued its research into the

Fashion comes alive

Number 6 in a series



Take Cecil Gee, the top fashion outlets for men, know that in fashion stores you have to display to attract business.

And that's why they've installed video players, monitors and sound systems in their new chain of menswear stores, Gee 2. That way customers see clothes as they should be seen - live.

Gee 2 is the only way to show fashion in real life situations.

Gee 2 chose the best - REV. With their new video systems, Gee 2 find they sell more of the lines featured, while making their stores livelier and more exciting places.

When it comes to fashion, REV know how to make it move.

Whatever your business needs, REV video consultancy will design and supply you the system you require, at the price you want. With nationwide back-up service that is second to none. Contact our sales office.

REV VIDEO
Video is our business

TEL: 01-870 9711/10 LINES. TELEX: 8814193 REW G.

Prison for benefit claim couple who 'lived it up on proceeds of crime'

From Our Correspondent, Winchester

A man who claimed more than £9,000 in state benefits while he and his family were "living it up on the proceeds of crime" was jailed for five years by Winchester Crown Court yesterday.

His wife, who wrote to the Prime Minister claiming that they were destitute and asking her to help them to obtain more benefit, was jailed for two years.

The court was told that later Stanley Cutts, aged 57, and his wife Christine, aged 36, lived in a large detached house and ran two cars and a caravan and their two daughters were being privately educated.

They ran a successful industrial cleaning company and a video hire business with assets of £60,000.

After two trials lasting two weeks, Cutts was sent to prison for five years and three months, after being found guilty of 15 charges of deception, four charges of forgery, one of forgery, and the theft of a car.

Judge McCreery, QC, told him: "You are a mean, snivelling, and contemptible old fraud. You thought you could

lie your way out like you have done before, but it is a tribute to the jury that you did not pull the wool over their eyes."

His wife was found guilty of 10 deception offences, one of forgery and two of aiding and abetting her husband to obtain credit while a bankrupt.

The judge told her: "You are an accomplished liar. If fairly told one's breath away to see you writing to the Prime Minister begging for more money and saying you were homeless and destitute when the truth was you were living it up on the proceeds of crime."

The court heard that the couple drew social security while living in rented accommodation in Reading, Berkshire.

They changed their name to Smythe and bought a £40,000 house in Andover, Hampshire, where they ran their companies.

When arrested in January, 1982, they owed their bank £25,000, £4,000 to credit card companies, £8,000 to creditors of a video library, and hundreds of pounds in hire purchase payments.

Mr Roger Titheridge QC, for the prosecution, had told the court: "I do not know whether the letter to Mrs Thatcher did the trick, but they certainly managed to get extra payments."

"Mrs Cutts explained that her husband was unfit for work because of a nervous breakdown and to exist they had sold all their furniture and clothes. She said they were homeless and penniless and Mr Cutts was forced to live in a car."

"She appealed to Mrs Thatcher as a wife and mother herself and asked if someone in authority could bring the torment to an end."

Mrs Cutts used false names to open accounts at Harrods and other stores and her husband obtained thousands of pounds in credit by using an alias and failing to reveal he was an undischarged bankrupt.

Cutts denied all the charges, claiming he had been persecuted by Thames Valley Police. His wife, who also denied all the charges, told the court: "I changed the family name in the hope of starting new life. I never intended to deceive anyone."

Shops deal for Austin Rover

By Clifford Webb

Motoring Correspondent

Austin Rover announced yesterday that its cars are to be sold by a leading chain of West German hypermarkets. It is believed to be the first time a stores group has invested in a separate car dealership.

Under a second deal announced yesterday, Austin Rover will be sold to Japanese rivals to be first into the fast growing Indian market with a locally assembled luxury car.

The Mass Group of West Germany has agreed to build separate showrooms and workshops at its out-of-town hypermarkets to handle the British cars exclusively.

There have been in the past occasions when stores sold cars but they were mainly temporary deals which failed through lack of specialist sales and service staff and inadequate facilities.

The Rover executive saloon will be produced in a factory to be built at Madras by one of India's oldest motor companies.

Standard Motor Products of India (SMPI) is paying £10m for 12,000 Rover parts, kits, and body sub-assemblies, which will be mated with a Rover 2.5-litre diesel engine it has been manufacturing under licence since 1980. There will also be a new Indian-developed and manufactured two-litre petrol engine.

Hospital closures plan for London

By Thomson Prentice

At least two general hospitals in London will be closed and about 2,000 National Health Service beds withdrawn in the next few years to take account of the population shift from the capital and changing priorities in health care, according to proposals announced yesterday.

About £50m a year in the cost of acute hospital services will have to be redistributed by 1994 to match the movement of people away from London, and to improve services for priority groups of patients such as the elderly, the mentally ill, and the handicapped, the North West Thames Regional Health Authority said.

In a planning document published yesterday, the authority said that London had more acute beds for every 1,000 people than the rest of the country, waiting time for operations was often shorter in central London than in many other areas, and that a population shift from the city to Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire required better hospital facilities to be provided there.

"The implications are that two or three district general hospitals in London would need to be closed," the document said. "In addition, the smaller hospitals throughout the region would need to move their local acute beds to the nearby district general hospital. The small hospitals could be used for priority service or closed."

Mr David Kenny, would not name any individual hospital that might close when he discussed the proposals yesterday. But he confirmed that the areas likely to be affected include Barnet, Hillingdon, Paddington, north Kensington, and Victoria.

"We are not going to start negotiating on individual districts, let alone individual hospitals, until we are certain we have the overall principles right," he said.

The planning document was being distributed widely to district authorities and other interested parties as a consultative paper, and comments and submissions were being sought by the authority by May 11. The authority was committed to going back to the Department of Health and Social Security in November with its strategy for health care provision in the 1990s.

Mr Kenny said that whatever closures were decided eventually, the hospitals involved could not be closed in under two years. There would not be many redundancies, he said.

According to estimates arrived at with the aid of computer studies, 11 of the health authority's 15 districts already have, or are likely to have too many hospital beds for the expected demand by patients in the 1990s.

The region's administrator, Mr David Kenny, would not name any individual hospital that might close when he discussed the proposals yesterday. But he confirmed that the areas likely to be affected include Barnet, Hillingdon, Paddington, north Kensington, and Victoria.

"We are not going to start negotiating on individual districts, let alone individual hospitals, until we are certain we have the overall principles right," he said.

The planning document was being distributed widely to district authorities and other interested parties as a consultative paper, and comments and submissions were being sought by the authority by May 11. The authority was committed to going back to the Department of Health and Social Security in November with its strategy for health care provision in the 1990s.

Mr Kenny said that whatever closures were decided eventually, the hospitals involved could not be closed in under two years. There would not be many redundancies, he said.

Mr Kenny said that whatever closures were decided eventually, the hospitals involved could not be closed in under two years. There would not be many redundancies, he said.

Mr Kenny said that whatever closures were decided eventually, the hospitals involved could not be closed in under two years. There would not be many redundancies, he said.

Cabman seeks damages over prison injection

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

A High Court judge was asked yesterday to award exemplary damages to a minicab driver who claims that he was unlawfully injected with the drug Largactil by prison officers at Brixton prison, London.

Mr Paul Barbara, aged 41, of St Katherine's Way, Tower Hamlets, east London, said three officers committed unlawful assault and battery and trespass by injecting him with the tranquillizer without his consent while he was a remand prisoner.

In an action against the Home Office, he is seeking damages for the assault and exemplary damages.

The Home Office has admitted liability but is contesting the exemplary damages which, if awarded, could run to several thousands of pounds.

Mr Barbara's counsel, Mr Louis Blom-Cooper, QC, told Mr Justice Leggatt: "Not to award the additional damages would be to sanction official behaviour by prison officers that, in our submission, reflects the first step towards the kind of abuse of psychiatric treatment that one associates with the Soviet Union."

Mr Andrew Collins, for the

Home Office, said there has been "some degree of confusion" in the instruction given to the officers. "That confusion was, it is accepted, at least negligent," he said.

Mr Blom-Cooper said Mr Barbara had a criminal record and in the 1960s was treated for paranoid schizophrenia. He was arrested on June 5, 1978, after police officers found him under the influence of drink and waving a sword, making "mock attacks" on passers-by.

The next day he was remanded in custody charged with having an offensive weapon and detained at Brixton. While he was there two attempts were made to administer Largactil to him in a plastic cup. He spat out the first and threw away the second, Mr Blom-Cooper said.

He said three prison officers arrived and told him they were going to inject him with the drug. Mr Barbara told them he was not consenting but would not resist, he said.

A report from the prison hospital occurrences book described Mr Barbara as a "bloody-minded, demanding, paranoid type" but there was no note of aggressive behaviour nor of the injection, he said.

The hearing continues today.

Woman drove at M5 cars

A woman who twice drove down the M5 motorway in the wrong direction hitting and chasing cars and lorries has been disqualified from driving for five years and placed on probation for three years.

Mrs Pauline Ford, aged 39, of Brighthelm Road, Brixham, Devon, pleaded guilty at Exeter Crown Court yesterday to driving recklessly on the night of January 6, last year.

Ford, driving a Cortina, had forced a car and two lorries to stop and then rammed them. She also forced a car driven by a Bury St Edmunds special constable, Mr Peter Payne, to stop, tried to ram him, and then chased him in reverse.

She finally hit a barrier and came to a halt. She told Mr Payne, who took her keys: "It was good fun." She had been suffering a mental disorder.

Gold salvage deal won dishonestly, court told

A contract to salvage Russian gold which went to the bottom of the sea during the Second World War was won dishonestly, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

The diving operation to recover the gold from the bomb room of the sunken HMS Edinburgh was brilliant, Mr Michael Worsley, for the prosecution, said.

However Mr John Jackson, a senior official of the Salvage Association and his friend, Mr Keith Jessop, a skilled diver, stooped to dishonesty and saying "nasty false things" to try to ensure that the contract went to a consortium run by Mr Jessop, Mr Worsley said.

Mr Jackson, aged 56, of St John's Street, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire, and Mr Jessop, aged 49, of Fern Court, Keighley, West Yorkshire, pleaded not guilty to five charges under the Official Secrets Act.

Mr Jackson was alleged to have disclosed classified information to Mr Jessop to advance the interests of the consortium. It was also claimed that the pair agreed to mislead a review



Family tradition: Gina Campbell on Agfa Bluebird with her father's mascot (Photograph: Tony Lewis).

A Campbell is to race again

By Alan Hamilton

Miss Gina Campbell intends to become the third generation of her family to attempt the hazardous business of establishing speed records on water.

Miss Campbell, aged 34, is the daughter of Donald Campbell, who died in 1967 attempting to break his world water speed record on Coniston Water, and granddaughter of Sir Malcolm Campbell who held world records on land and water.

Yesterday, at St Katherine's Dock, London, Miss Campbell unveiled the £25,000 Phantom

monohull powerboat, with two 175hp outboard engines, with which she hopes to enter record books. Her present ambitions are, however, modest compared with those of her father, who drove his boat Bluebird to 276.33mph.

Miss Campbell and her co-driver, Mr Michael Standridge, aged 28, will attempt to break the 90mph record for class IHD powerboats on Windermere in October.

Mrs Daphne Shaw, Donald Campbell's widow, was on hand

yesterday with a well shaken bottle of champagne to name the new boat Agfa Bluebird, maintaining the historic family name, while advertising the sponsor.

Clutching her father's teddy-bear mascot recovered from the wreckage of the earlier Bluebird, Miss Campbell said that the circumstances of his death, when the boat somersaulted through the air at nearly 300mph, had not dissuaded her from powerboat racing. "That was a one-off thing; lightning never strikes twice."

Lay-by car blown up by mistake

A soldier's attempt at wiring up his own stereo system ended in disaster yesterday when the bomb squad blew up his car in a lay-by near York.

Private Jeremy Holmsborn, aged 18, who is attached to The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire, stationed at Strensall, York, had abandoned his newly acquired car after running out of petrol.

Police patrols saw it and became suspicious after noting its Northern Ireland registration. A closer inspection disclosed wires running from the dashboard to an object underneath a blanket on the back seat.

A bomb squad unit was called and the York to Hull Road at Grymston Hill was sealed off while army experts used a remote control robot to blast open the car boot. They discovered a stereo and two speakers.

Yesterday as police cleared away debris, Private Holmsborn turned up with a can of petrol, spokesman for the bomb disposal unit said: "A ladies' lavatory in a lay-by may not seem a likely target for terrorists, but we can't take chances."

Daily Star to pay libel damages

An American businessman, Mr Maurice Tempelsman, won substantial undisclosed libel damages in the High Court yesterday over allegations in the Daily Star that he had denied that his marriage was in trouble while at the time living with another woman.

The newspaper's editor, and publishers, Express Newspapers, accepted that the allegations, made in 2 January, 1981, were without foundation and agreed to pay damages and legal costs.

Mr Worsley said that the case centred on the task of salvaging the Edinburgh's cargo worth £45m, lost when the 10,000-ton cruiser was torpedoed by German submarines in the Barents Sea in 1942.

The Soviet Government had sent a consignment of gold to the allies in payment for arms supplies. It was not until the late 1970s that the British and Soviet governments got together to arrange for salvage.

The Department of Trade and Industry employed the long-established Salvage Association to negotiate. A salvage contract was eventually awarded to the consortium run by Mr Jessop.

The consortium's achievement in recovering almost all of the gold was brilliant, Mr Worsley said. Modern diving skills and techniques made the job possible.

The trial continues today.

Surveyors expect big home price rises

By Christopher Warman

Property Correspondent

Indications that house prices will rise considerably this spring are contained in the latest survey by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, published yesterday.

There was a sharp upward trend in prices in the quarter ended in February, before the boost given by the Budget measures and the reduction in mortgage interest rate announced last week.

Half the agents taking part in the institution's survey of the market in England and Wales reported price rises of 2 per cent and 14 per cent reported rises of 5 per cent.

In the South-east, the trend has been more marked, with nearly a third of agents reporting rises of more than 5 per cent. In some parts of the region the rise has reached 8 per cent.

Commenting on the figures, Mr John Thomas, housing market spokesman for the institution, said that, with few exceptions, agents were reporting a buoyant market stimulated by improved prospects for the economy and a more regular supply of mortgage money.

This surge has come a little earlier than was predicted in earlier comments and is likely to continue now at least until mid-summer," he said.

The reduction in stamp duty announced in the Budget and the reduced interest rate would "give an even greater confidence to the market", but he did not believe that the price rises would turn into a boom.

The handful of the 294 firms in the survey which reported a stagnant market were those practising in areas of high unemployment.

Children's plays fall foul of fire rules

By Lucy Hodges

Education correspondent

School plays, pantomimes, concerts, and dances are being cancelled because of a law that says that public entertainments must be licensed and buildings fitted with a required number of fire escapes and illuminated signs.

The National Confederation of Parent-Teacher Associations (PTAs), concerned about the cancellation of many school shows last Christmas, is seeking a meeting with Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science.

District councils, particularly in Norfolk, have been refusing licences to schools on the ground of public safety under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1982.

The Department of Education and Science said: "It has always been understood that normal school functions, including those of parent-teacher associations, such as pantomimes, dances, and discos to which children, parents, teachers, and relations come are not classified as public performances."

"Therefore they do not fall within the scope of the Act. We are hoping that the Home Office, which has responsibility for this piece of legislation, will issue guidelines."

The Home Office said that it had been approached by Norfolk yesterday and told the county council that performances for members of a PTA and their invited guests did not require licences. If shows in schools were open to a wider audience they would need a licence. It said it would similarly advise all local authorities that approached it.

BCal raises stakes in air routes battle

By Michael Bailey, Transport Editor

The battle between British Airways and British Caledonian intensified yesterday when Sir Adam Thomson, chairman of BCal, confirmed that his airline would seek a £100m to £150m stock market flotation this autumn, well ahead of British Airways flotation.

He confirmed that BCal would attempt to transfer its operations to Heathrow from Gatwick, if it were not granted some British Airways routes as part of the privatization. This would be a severe blow to the Government's policy of developing Gatwick as London's second airport.

Sir Adam disclosed that BCal had raised the stakes since calling for a £200m route and asset transfer from British Airways last year and was now seeking a £300m transfer. That would leave BA with 60 per cent of Britain's scheduled routes, with 30 per cent for BCal, and 10 per cent for the rest.

He reported a £3.3m profit for 1983, up from £1.5m in 1982.

National Westminster Bank is pleased to announce the opening of a Group office in Dallas.

Address: National Westminster Bank, Suite 4250, Thanksgiving Tower, 42nd Floor, 1601 Elm Street, Dallas, Texas 75201, USA.
Telephone: 922 9620/9607 Telex: 791516 NATWESBAN-DAL

National Westminster
The Action Bank

Collector robbed of old people's home pensions

A man aged 79 was yesterday robbed of £3,000 of pension money and pension books he was collecting for other residents at an old people's home.

Mr Miles Weeks had walked the 150 yards from the post office every week for five years, carrying the cash in a plastic carrier bag.

The men snatched the bag, also containing 50 pension books, a few yards from Woodfield Lodge Old People's Home in St Marychurch Road, Torquay, shortly after 10am.

Det-Constable Clive Gordon said: "They could not have made it easier if they tried. I am just astonished it never happened before."

Mr Weeks, a former hotel

worker, said: "I have done it so many times it does not worry me anymore. But I would never go on my own again, I would take someone with me."

Mr Weeks was seen by a neighbour, said: "I will never go alone again."

Mr Weeks was seen by a neighbour, said: "I will never go alone again."

Mr Weeks was seen by a neighbour, said: "I will never go alone again."

Mr Weeks was seen by a neighbour, said: "I will never go alone again."

Micro-electronics gets package of support

THE BUDGET

Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, opening the final day of the budget debate in the Commons, outlined six extensions of Government policy to support research and development. These were, he said, part and parcel of the Government's general objective of rewarding initiative and innovation.

They included special provision to encourage the use of technologically advanced equipment by small and medium-sized firms in the clothing, footwear, knitting and textile industries.

There would also be a new micro-electronic industry support programme providing £120m of Government support up to 1990.

He said that since the budget the Opposition, as ever, had announced the end of the world as they knew it. The Government had been criticized for taking so long over abolition of national insurance surcharge. Labour's special tax on labour and of the extension of VAT to fish and chips.

As an act of charity one should forget Mr Neil Kinnock's most forgettable speech last Tuesday.

What had happened in the real world since the budget? Interest rates had fallen by nearly 1 per cent to the lowest for nearly six years; building societies had cut mortgage rates by 1 per cent; share prices had risen.

As a result of the policies of the past few years, Britain was leading Europe out of the recession; growth of gross domestic product in 1983 and expected growth in 1984 were the highest of the Community partners; a position to which Britain was not accustomed, least of all under Labour governments.

To meet our industrial and economic performance, to create the wealth we need, (he said), we need to reduce costs, to remove the distortions in the economy and provide an environment in which drive, effort and determination will be rewarded. The budget does all of those.

It had been the governments' stated objective to abolish national insurance surcharge within the lifetime of this Parliament and it had done it at the first opportunity, in the first budget of this Parliament.

Mr Shore had called for its abolition last year. What a pity he had imposed it in the first place. The abolition would be worth £150m to private industry in a full year, which was a measure of the burden it had been to the economy.

The halving of stamp duty on share transactions would give a welcome boost to the international competitiveness of London as a financial centre and earner of foreign currency. The 1 per cent stamp duty compared unfavourably with the rates in Britain's EEC partners and more particularly with those in the United States.

No doubt the economy would also grow faster as other distortions were removed. The government was moving to a clearer and simpler system of corporation tax entirely in keeping with that approach.

The lower rates of corporation tax had been warmly welcomed by business. In two years' time industry would be paying corporation tax at 35 per cent, a reduction of one-third in the current rate. The small companies' rate of corporation tax would fall immediately to 30 per cent, the same level as the basic rate of income tax.

The large tax concessions given to favoured investment, successful or not, had reduced the cost of that investment by up to 52 per cent and more when financed through borrowing. They relieved industrialists from the cost of inefficiency or failure but had to be paid for by the tax bills of those who were not successful.

That system could no longer be justified. Businessmen would be left to take their decisions on economic and industrial factors and not as they often did in the past by thinking about where the tax breaks lay.

What incentive could there be for risk taking when the state gave up over half the profits of success and the cost of failure was minimized by the tax system?

There was a consistent link between reducing the capital allowance and abolishing NIS. The Government wanted to remove distortions to the character of investment and leave those decisions in the hands of investors guided not by tax relief but the prospect of return.

The bias imposed in the past (he went on) by the structure of corporation tax and NIS which was inherited was discretionary against labour. How odd it is that the

Labour Party should tax labour and subsidize capital and then have to leave it to us, the capitalists, to put things right.

All these reforms shared a common purpose. In the treatment of capital investment overall and treatment of regional investment the Government's aim would be the same: to improve the productivity of investment and end the distortion caused by favouring capital over labour.

Not the least important of the Chancellor's announcements was his statement that the tax changes would lead to a reduction of at least 1,000 in the number of tax gatherers. One thousand tax gatherers fewer meant perhaps as many as 10,000 fewer tax accounts.

These efforts and skills could be transferred from sterile conflict to more useful tasks.

Mr Tebbit went on to make a number of announcements about further spending designed to ensure that industry used efficient and technologically advanced equipment and took steps to keep abreast of modern developments.

Advanced manufacturing technology was crucial to improving industrial competitiveness, he said. The initial allocation of £35m to the flexible manufacturing systems scheme, announced in 1982, was close to being completed. There was continuing heavy demand. There would be a further £20m for advanced manufacturing technology.

Design and quality was increasingly recognized as a vitally important link between the company's productive capacity and the market it served. He was therefore extending the design advisory service funded consultancy scheme so that smaller companies could benefit from it. He would also make available another £5m for the department's successful quality award scheme.

The original £25m for software products was now almost fully committed and he had decided to continue the scheme and to provide further funding of £12m to carry it through to mid-1985.

Information technology centres had been successful in many cases they were announced in 1981. He had decided to increase the number of centres, which would now benefit from his department's financial support, from 150 to 175.

He also intended to make special provision to encourage the use of technologically advanced equipment by small and medium sized firms in the clothing, footwear, knitting and textile industries. They were important industries and accounted for 10 per cent of manufacturing employment. Their exports last year were worth more than £2,000m.

They were affected by intense competition and their ability to invest in the technologically advanced machinery now available had been eroded by the recession. This had hit particularly the small and medium-sized firms with outstanding examples of improved productivity.

He intended to provide £20m under Section 8 of the Industrial Development Act 1982 for a scheme to operate along broadly the same lines as the successful small engineering firms investment schemes.

There would be a list of technologically advanced equipment of a type used in these industries and for which small and medium sized firms in the industries would be eligible for an investment grant, probably of up to 20 per cent.

This scheme and some of the others he had announced would have to be discussed with the European Commission so he could not give further details of the textile scheme yet. But as part of the design advisory consultancy scheme he was making a special allocation of £1.5m over three years to allow a further 100 companies a year in these industries to use the scheme.

Some special arrangements to encourage design in this industry were also being announced today. Electronics was a major factor in

industry's ability to innovate and hence in its future prosperity was its use of electronics. The importance of micro-electronics was recognized in the original micro electronics industry support programme launched in 1978. Its £55m funds were fully committed and he expected that total investment encouraged by the scheme to be about £170m.

For the remainder of the 1980s it was estimated that the United Kingdom micro-electronics industry needed to spend more than £1,000m in the development and production of integrated circuits alone if it was to maintain a growth rate in line with worldwide trends. So there would be a new micro-electronics industry support programme to provide £120m of Government support up to 1990.

Grants would be available for development, production and use of micro-electronic components.

This would help to ensure that the results of the longer-term research programme would be carried through into commercial products.

These six extensions (he said) of our existing policy of support for research and development are part and parcel of our general approach towards rewarding initiative and innovation.

The Government has created the conditions for a more efficient and dynamic business sector in which there is an opportunity for individuals and companies to strike, to seek and to gain and to be rewarded.

This is a budget for enterprise, for risk taking. It is a budget for jobs. It is all these because it is a budget for business.

Whatever criticisms may come from those who oppose it, it is already clear that our wealth creators, even if not yet understood by those who constantly criticize every success and constantly hope for further failures.

Mr Peter Shore, chief Opposition spokesman on trade and industry, said the Chancellor might yet learn that the ingenuity in budget making with a strong bias towards wealth and the City was no lasting substitute for diagnosis and preserving Britain's aims.

Mr Tebbit had outlined crumbs of comfort which must be seen in the context of a trade and industry budget which had suffered more severe curtailment in the past year than any other programme of the Government for 1984-85 and the years ahead. What Mr Tebbit had announced were carefully judged stimuli equal to £0,003 of gross domestic product.

The most ludicrous label put on the budget was the Chancellor's own, that it was a budget for new jobs. This had been reiterated by Mr Tebbit. But the budget had largely set the scene for the construction of public spending over the next few years and also the accelerated horse sale of public sector assets.

Britain's overseas trade had benefited from the massive output of export of North Sea oil. This had enabled the country to show a substantial balance of payments surplus in each of the last three years.

While exports in both volume and value of North Sea oil had risen year by year, the size of Britain's overall trade surplus had been declining.

This happy period of overall surplus (he said) is coming to an end. It is my hope that this will prove to be the Achilles heel of the whole Government strategy.

Last year for the first time in our history we imported more manufactured goods than we actually exported.

Trade in manufactured goods had declined from a surplus of £4,800m in 1981 to a deficit of £2,100m last year.

Worship of the deities of money supply had produced cruel effects. For the past year or more Britain had seen a rise in the interest rates - price of money over the rate of inflation - than at any time this century. This was a devastating imposition on industrial costs.

Money supply policies together with the Chancellor's own, that it was a budget for new jobs. This had been reiterated by Mr Tebbit. But the budget had largely set the scene for the construction of public spending over the next few years and also the accelerated horse sale of public sector assets.

Britain's overseas trade had benefited from the massive output of export of North Sea oil. This had enabled the country to show a substantial balance of payments surplus in each of the last three years.

While exports in both volume and value of North Sea oil had risen year by year, the size of Britain's overall trade surplus had been declining.

This happy period of overall surplus (he said) is coming to an end. It is my hope that this will prove to be the Achilles heel of the whole Government strategy.

Last year for the first time in our history we imported more manufactured goods than we actually exported.

Trade in manufactured goods had declined from a surplus of £4,800m in 1981 to a deficit of £2,100m last year.

Worship of the deities of money supply had produced cruel effects. For the past year or more Britain had seen a rise in the interest rates - price of money over the rate of inflation - than at any time this century. This was a devastating imposition on industrial costs.

Money supply policies together with the Chancellor's own, that it was a budget for new jobs. This had been reiterated by Mr Tebbit. But the budget had largely set the scene for the construction of public spending over the next few years and also the accelerated horse sale of public sector assets.



Tebbit: Innovation.

with high interest rates and high exchange rates would continue to have the most devastating effects on the balance of payments, industrial output and the level of employment.

It was no good Mr Lawson saying productivity in industry increased last year by 6 per cent as it increased the previous year by 6 per cent. If that increase in productivity was swamped by the decline in international competitiveness because of the overall level of the exchange rate then Britain did not gain competitiveness in the struggle for world markets, it lost it.

There was danger of a continuing decline in manufacturing industry and also in the service economy. The prospects were not bright for the construction industry. An additional 15 per cent VAT would fall on the improvement of buildings of all kinds in architecture and construction. This was criminal and absurd.

When he considered what had happened in the past four years, and what was proposed for the next four, he had a feeling of utmost trepidation for the future.

It is simply intolerable (he said) to think that a great nation and the ingenuity of the British people should be let down by a series of ill-considered, right-wing, pseudo-intellectual philosophy.

Mr Edward Heath, the former Prime Minister (Old Beasley and Sidcup, C), said Mr Shore had worked himself up into a considerable lather about monetarism, but it was dead. The emphasis now was put on public sector borrowing requirement.

Mr Lawson's objective of reducing the overall burden of taxation to 1974 levels was a worthy one, but it was doubtful he could achieve it.

Mr Lawson was undertaking obligations of a kind which no other Chancellor had undertaken in the past.

What some of us would not be prepared to see (he added) is valued judgments being disregarded because the Chancellor says we must stick now to what he has said about corporation tax.

He welcomed the abolition of the national insurance surcharge, but doubted whether it would lead to more jobs.

Composite rates for banks would save the Treasury manpower but put extra manpower burdens on to the banks.

VAT on takeaway food appeared to have created further anomalies and the question was whether the Chancellor should not remove the remaining anomalies next time.

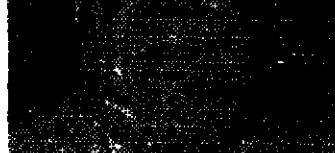
He was sad about the removal of the 30-day overseas arrangement because it concerned mostly people who spent their lives travelling to export goods for Britain. He did not believe many deliberately stayed away for 28 or 30 days to get this advantage. It meant firms would have to pay their salesmen more to make up for it.

Seamen would suffer. Shipowners would have to pay additional amounts to the seamen to make up for it. So although this measure benefited the Chancellor it put an additional burden on the firms.

They should recognize the major part salesmen played in the country's life. They had never had the status and esteem they should have.

The commentators and analysts agreed the budget moved towards services and away from manufacturing. He thought this was undesirable. He had heard a great deal about out-dated industries. This was a concept one ought to examine with great care. They had passed through a variety of phases. There had been phases of mergers, of conglomerates, the phase when everything small was beautiful and when the big was the one thing that mattered.

They had discovered that mergers often led to such large concerns they



Heath: Essential industries.

could not be managed properly. Conglomerates that no management was able to control them.

In the last two years they had seen how difficult it was for small companies not only to start but to continue because the rate of bankruptcies for small companies had been extraordinarily high. It was equally wrong to say they were now going to live on services. They could not just live on a diet of microchips and home computers.

Were the steel, shipbuilding and car making industries outdated? Of course not. In other countries the steel and coal and engineering industries were essential industries, and they were also essential for the country, if only from the point of view of defence and that was important enough. These were vital industries.

Regarding personal taxation, he asked the Chancellor to consider in future whether increasing child allowances was in many cases preferable to the simple increase of the single or married person's allowances.

The Treasury ought to set out the budget so that expenditure was given the form of current account expenditure. That was vital to an understanding of what the Government was trying to do in the money markets of the world.

The Treasury had been entitled in capital expenditure to show what it was doing and where it was entitled to go into the market. The public sector would always have to have capital and the Government was entitled to put it on the capital account.

The United Kingdom should also become a full member of the European monetary system - there were no longer any grounds for opposing it. The country was fragile and depressed, Britain would be in the European monetary system revaluing upwards and that would be a basis for confidence.

On the other hand, when the oil began to flow, there would be doubts about sterling therefore it would be good to be supported by the European monetary system.

There was a need for reform of the international institutions bringing together the European monetary system, the European monetary system, that formed the programme for a radical Chancellor.

Mr Enoch Powell (South Down, C) said it had been extraordinary to hear Mr Kinnock criticizing the Government for proposing borrowing when that had been the very basis on which the Labour Party had presented itself so unsuccessfully at the last election.

It looked as if the Boston Tea Party in which the Labour Party was jettisoning overboard all the characteristic items of policy was now to include its economic, fiscal and financial policies. In future borrowing would be out for the Labour Party even if the European Economic Community was to be in.

The government seemed set on a steady, continuous path of public borrowing, but the Chancellor had to say what form he intended that borrowing to take.

There were two possibilities. One was to fund it by borrowing from the public and the other was to borrow from the banking system. The latter was the classic alternative and the House should know the Chancellor's intentions regarding the balance between them to meet the general Government borrowing requirement was obtained from the banking system the Chancellor would not be able to sustain his intended rate of inflation.

Mr William Clark (Croydon, South, C) said that the budget helped those on lower incomes, helped investment and helped business.

Postal codes

In January 1984 56 per cent of all mail used the postal code, Mr David Trippier, Under Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, indicated in a written Commons reply. He added that the cost of maintaining the postal code system was £7.7m a year.

Day of action

A total of 165,300 civil servants took part in the TUC's day of action on February 28 for varying periods. Mr Berney Hayhoe, Minister of State, Treasury, said

TRANSPORT

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, admitted during Commons questions that advice that heavy lorries exceeding the weight limit should not be prosecuted unless there was overloading by more than 10 per cent was sent out by an official in his Department without his knowledge.

Mr William van Stranbeek (Wokingham, C) had asked if Mr Ridley was satisfied with the operation on roads for which he was responsible of the weight limit for heavy commercial vehicles.

Mr Ridley: I want to see more effective enforcement of the law against overloaded lorries. It is for the licensing authorities and other enforcement agencies to decide on the best means of doing this.

What I have done is increase the resources available to the licensing authorities in the field force of traffic examiners and in providing many more weighbridges.

I will ensure that lack of resources does not inhibit their enforcement work.

Sir William van Stranbeek: It was an essential quid pro quo for the increasing weight limits that there would be strenuous enforcement in relation to those increased limits. Recent prosecution figures, particu-

larly in Kent for obvious reasons, are at least, to put it mildly, disturbing.

Mr Ridley: I entirely agree. Any deficiencies in staff for the licensing authorities are being put right. The extra facilities we have provided give traffic examiners all the resources they need to make sure that the law is enforced. It can be either by prohibiting lorries from proceeding, quite a severe penalty in some cases, or by prosecution or both.

Mr Tim Rathbone (Lewes, C): I welcome his reassurance about the amount of funds being made available for this. It is also most welcome to hear that he is seeking better ways of controlling lorry weights. I plead with him to reassert the philosophy of divine discontent on this policy.

Mr Ridley: Enforcement is a matter for the enforcement authorities, not for me. It is exactly the same relationship as the Home Secretary has with the police. He can give them the powers, but after that it is up to them to enforce the law.

There has been much more activity which will have its deterrent effect as well as catching those who are currently evading the law.

Mr James Callaghan (Heywood and Middleton, Lab): In the light of the report in the weekend newspapers about damage to the London bridges by heavy commercial

vehicles, is he taking steps to ensure the safety of the public on these bridges?

Mr Ridley: The only bridge I know of where there has been damage is Hammersmith Bridge. It has a 12 ton limit which has been exceeded by buses which can weigh up to 15 tons. Heavy lorries cannot be blamed for that.

Mr Roger Meade (Faversham, C): A letter has been sent out by a number of licensing authorities saying that the prosecution of heavy lorries exceeding the limit should not take place unless the weight was exceeding by more than 10 per cent. How does he reconcile this with his intentions and the statutory limit imposed by Parliament?

Mr Ridley: Those instructions were sent out by licensing authorities. They were sent out by an official in my Department without the knowledge of myself or my Minister of State (Mrs Lynda Chalker).

That letter was designed to coordinate the activities of different licensing authorities and it pointed out that prohibition from proceeding was a very effective way of enforcing the limit. That is exactly what it has done.

Mr Peter Snape (West Bromwich East, Lab), for the Opposition: The House will be grateful for the confession which contradicts the two denials he has so far made about the origins of this circular.

Public subsidies, he said, should not be used simply to finance businessmen but all passengers. He wanted to prevent the development of "upstairs-downstairs" service on British Rail.

Mr Mitchell said these were matters for British Rail's commercial judgement, and if they judged that this was the most effective way to increase customer satisfaction, so they should proceed.

Mr David Mitchell, Under Secretary of State for Transport, said he intends to travel on the Settle-Carlisle railway line before there is a decision on its future, he told the House during questions.

The advanced passenger train is not being progressed by British Rail at the present time, Mr David Mitchell, Under Secretary of State for Transport, said in the Commons.

Mr Dennis Canavan (Falkirk West, Lab) had asked Mr Mitchell to take up with the chairman of British Rail when, if ever, the APT was likely to be running again between Scotland and London.

There were about 70 private sector catering facilities on station, and more were planned. He was pressing British Rail to make further progress.

Mr Timothy Yeo (Suffolk South, C) had complained that there were many frustrated British Rail customers who tried to get refreshments but could not.

Mr John Prescott, chief Opposition spokesman on transport, asked about BR management's decision to ban second class passengers from sitting down to breakfast because of the extraordinary demands of expense account businessmen.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Debate on PAC reports. Lords (2.30): Telecommunications Bill, report, third day.

Ministers did not know of advice on heavy lorries

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, admitted during Commons questions that advice that heavy lorries exceeding the weight limit should not be prosecuted unless there was overloading by more than 10 per cent was sent out by an official in his Department without his knowledge.

Mr William van Stranbeek (Wokingham, C) had asked if Mr Ridley was satisfied with the operation on roads for which he was responsible of the weight limit for heavy commercial vehicles.

Mr Ridley: I want to see more effective enforcement of the law against overloaded lorries. It is for the licensing authorities and other enforcement agencies to decide on the best means of doing this.

What I have done is increase the resources available to the licensing authorities in the field force of traffic examiners and in providing many more weighbridges.

I will ensure that lack of resources does not inhibit their enforcement work.

Sir William van Stranbeek: It was an essential quid pro quo for the increasing weight limits that there would be strenuous enforcement in relation to those increased limits. Recent prosecution figures, particu-

larly in Kent for obvious reasons, are at least, to put it mildly, disturbing.

Mr Ridley: I entirely agree. Any deficiencies in staff for the licensing authorities are being put right. The extra facilities we have provided give traffic examiners all the resources they need to make sure that the law is enforced. It can be either by prohibiting lorries from proceeding, quite a severe penalty in some cases, or by prosecution or both.

Mr Tim Rathbone (Lewes, C): I welcome his reassurance about the amount of funds being made available for this. It is also most welcome to hear that he is seeking better ways of controlling lorry weights. I plead with him to reassert the philosophy of divine discontent on this policy.

Mr Ridley: Enforcement is a matter for the enforcement authorities, not for me. It is exactly the same relationship as the Home Secretary has with the police. He can give them the powers, but after that it is up to them to enforce the law.

There has been much more activity which will have its deterrent effect as well as catching those who are currently evading the law.

Mr James Callaghan (Heywood and Middleton, Lab): In the light of the report in the weekend newspapers about damage to the London bridges by heavy commercial

vehicles, is he taking steps to ensure the safety of the public on these bridges?

Mr Ridley: The only bridge I know of where there has been damage is Hammersmith Bridge. It has a 12 ton limit which has been exceeded by buses which can weigh up to 15 tons. Heavy lorries cannot be blamed for that.

Mr Roger Meade (Faversham, C): A letter has been sent out by a number of licensing authorities saying that the prosecution of heavy lorries exceeding the limit should not take place unless the weight was exceeding by more than 10 per cent. How does he reconcile this with his intentions and the statutory limit imposed by Parliament?

Mr Ridley: Those instructions were sent out by licensing authorities. They were sent out by an official in my Department without the knowledge of myself or my Minister of State (Mrs Lynda Chalker).

That letter was designed to coordinate the activities of different licensing authorities and it pointed out that prohibition from proceeding was a very effective way of enforcing the limit. That is exactly what it has done.

Mr Peter Snape (West Bromwich East, Lab), for the Opposition: The House will be grateful for the confession which contradicts the two denials he has so far made about the origins of this circular.

Public subsidies, he said, should not be used simply to finance businessmen but all passengers. He wanted to prevent the development of "upstairs-downstairs" service on British Rail.

Mr Mitchell said these were matters for British Rail's commercial judgement, and if they judged that this was the most effective way to increase customer satisfaction, so they should proceed.

Mr David Mitchell, Under Secretary of State for Transport, said he intends to travel on the Settle-Carlisle railway line before there is a decision on its future, he told the House during questions.

The advanced passenger train is not being progressed by British Rail at the present time, Mr David Mitchell, Under Secretary of State for Transport, said in the Commons.

Mr Dennis Canavan (Falkirk West, Lab) had asked Mr Mitchell to take up with the chairman of British Rail when, if ever, the APT was likely to be running again between Scotland and London.

There were about 70 private sector catering facilities on station, and more were planned. He was pressing British Rail to make further progress.

Mr Timothy Yeo (Suffolk South, C) had complained that there were many frustrated British Rail customers who tried to get refreshments but could not.

Mr John Prescott, chief Opposition spokesman on transport, asked about BR management's decision to ban second class passengers from sitting down to breakfast because of the extraordinary demands of expense account businessmen.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Debate on PAC reports. Lords (2.30): Telecommunications Bill, report, third day.

Coach fares fall by nearly 40%

Average fares on long distance coaches had fallen by almost 40 per cent since the 1980 Transport Act, which led to more private operators, came into force, Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, told the Commons during questions.

Replying to Mr Matthew Parris (West Derbyshire, C), Mr Ridley said there were about 1,200 express services running in 1980 and 700 new services were added by last summer.

Mr Parris in considering these welcome figures will be aware that the last major constraint to further development of coach services is the difficulty of getting in and out of London and the need for a new terminus in London?

With the encouragement of British Rail and the National Bus Company to reach a sensible agreement over the use of Marylebone Station and the line out of it?

Mr Ridley: I agree these figures are startling and show just what competition has done for the industry. A new terminus is a more difficult matter. It is for the railways to obtain consent for the closure of the line at Marylebone Station and I would have to decide that issue on appeal.

The railways are required by the Transport Act to sell for the maximum price they can get and it is impossible to speculate whether that will result in it going to a bus terminal.

Warring Lebanon parties seek miracle to save Lausanne conference

From Robert Fisk, Lausanne

It was the correspondent of the Beirut newspaper, *Al-Nahar*, who got it about right yesterday. As Lebanon's reconciliation conference dragged itself irresolutely into its eighth day, he sent home a suitably cosmic dispatch.

"God created the world in six days," he reported. "But for the creation of peace in the Lebanon, seven days have not been enough. Only a miracle will save the conference from failure."

Mr Abdul Halim Khaddam, the Syrian Vice-President, is in the miracle business just now and yesterday persuaded the Muslim delegates at Lausanne to produce joint proposals to be considered by the Lebanese Christian leaders.

But little more than an agreement on the principle of a new government of national unity was likely to emerge within the next 24 hours and Mr Walid Jumblatt, the Druze leader, has already said he intends to return home today.

Lebanese government spokesmen, with scarcely less pessimism than they evinced on Sunday, talked yesterday about the possibility of one final night-time session of the conference, a meeting that just might endorse a structure of increased Muslim governmental power

while retaining Maronite control of the presidency. But even this is likely to be no more than a set of high sounding principles rather than concrete agreement.

It is almost as if the 18 thick iron anti-rocket shield protecting the conference chamber from potential assassins has somehow isolated the Lebanese politicians from the horrors of their own country.

The ferocity of Beirut is only a telephone call away from those attending the conference and delegates can be found in their suites each evening, staring transfixed and powerless at the news from their capital city, of hooded militiamen fighting amid a ceasefire that has already itself become a phantom.

Yet Lebanese delegates can still be found enjoying the artistry of Miss Diana di Braccio's dance act at Brummell's nightclub in Lausanne, while the would-be masters of Lebanon's destiny continue to enjoy the cuisine of the Hotel Beau Rivage's best restaurant.

The Syrians called Mr Jumblatt and Mr Nabih Berri, the leader of the Shia Muslim Amal movement to their rooms late on Sunday night and reportedly insisted they adopt a more compromising attitude towards the Christian leadership.

Mr Khaddam however, is now saying openly that citizenship rather than religious belief should join the Lebanese together, emphasizing that the Maronites are no longer a majority and cannot expect to be treated as such.

The Syrians have also said that other Christian communities in Lebanon, including the Catholics, have been underprivileged, and it is suggested Mr Khaddam may even favour a Catholic or Greek Orthodox presidency.

But it is difficult to see how the delegates, some of whom are already losing control over their militias in Beirut, can stay in Lausanne much longer. The conference has gone on for so long that even the photographic staff of an American fashion magazine turned up at the Beau Rivage yesterday to take advantage of the awesome security precautions.

As astonished Lebanese and Syrian representatives looked on, models were solemnly, and by pre-arrangement with the police, "arrested" by fur hatted members of the Swiss gendarmerie only a few yards from the conference chamber, thus proving that show business and high security has a lot in common, at least in Lausanne.



Royal star: The Prince of Wales enjoying a comic with schoolchildren after arriving yesterday in Dar es Salaam. Tanzania is the first stop on a two-week African tour, which will also include Zimbabwe, Zambia and Botswana.

Polish police question reporter

By Our Correspondent Warsaw

The Warsaw correspondents of the BBC and The New York Times were summoned for questioning yesterday at the headquarters of the Ministry of Internal Affairs in connection with an investigation against a prominent Polish human rights lawyer.

Both correspondents refused to answer questions from Polish security police about how they had obtained copies of an open letter written by Mr Wladyslaw Gilewicz to General Jaruzelski, the Polish leader, which accused the authorities of violating the law and covering up the investigation into the beating to death of a Warsaw schoolboy.

The BBC correspondent, Mr Kevin Ruane, aged 51, of Liverpool, declined to answer questions about the letter, saying: "As a journalist I cannot reveal my sources."

Mr Ruane, who spent nearly two hours at the Internal Affairs Ministry building, previously experienced problems when the Foreign Ministry revoked his accreditation for three months at the beginning of 1983.

The New York Times correspondent, Mr John Kifner, aged 41, of New York, was questioned for under an hour, but similarly claimed the right to protect his sources.

Walesa plea: Mr Lech Walesa, leader of the banned Solidarity union, has issued a statement calling for the release of Mrs Anna Walentynowicz, a fellow activist, and the opposition writer Mr Marek Nowakowski.

Malta and Vatican seek deal on schools

Vallarta.-Talks between the Vatican and Malta on the future of Maltese private church schools are to be resumed today (our correspondent writes).

The Maltese delegation in Rome is led by the Minister of Education, Dr Carmelo Mifsud Bobbio, who said: "We are entering these negotiations with good will but with a strong resolution in the church's secondary schools will be free from the start of the next scholastic year."

The talks, begun a year ago, broke down last June.

Fatal revenge

Islamabad (AP) - A father held responsible for his son's murder 12 years ago and hacked all five members to death. Police said an 80-year-old man was among those butchered in the village of Surer.

Curfew lifted

Ryuccho (AP) - The military command in Peru's guerrilla zone has lifted a two-year curfew on Ayacucho "to restore normal activity" for the city's 80,000 residents. The suspension concerns the province of Huamanga.

Poll postponed

Dhaka - Bowing to opposition demands, President Ershad has postponed Bangladesh's controversial sub-district elections. The vote, which was to be held after the parliamentary and presidential elections set for May 27.

Texas battered

New York (AP) - Baseball-sized hailstones, 60mph winds, tornadoes, dust storms, torrential rains and driving snow stranded people and damaged buildings across Texas. Heavy snow blocked parts of Colorado, Nebraska and Kansas.

Spectators hurt

Madrid. - More than 40 spectators, including several children, were injured when a stand collapsed at a Majorca stadium during a football match. The accident occurred when Majorca scored.

Danish choice

Brussels - Denmark proposed the name of Mr Henning Christoffersen, the country's Deputy Prime Minister, to be the next president of the European Commission.

War legacy

Berlin (AP) - More than 13 tons of ammunition left over from the Second World War, have been uncovered in West Berlin since the beginning of the year. About 1,500 tons of old ammunition and bombs are found in West Germany and West Berlin every year.

Awacs sent to protect Sudan from air attack

From Mohsin Ali Washington

The US has sent two Awacs surveillance aircraft to Egypt to help guard against any new air attacks on neighbouring Sudan, the Pentagon announced yesterday. The aircraft landed on Monday in Cairo where they will be based.

Egypt and the Sudan have accused Libya of carrying out an air raid on the Sudanese city of Omdurman last Friday. Libya has denied the charge, but Egypt claims that Libya is the only country in the area to own the type of plane used in the raid, a Soviet-made Tupolev 22.

A Pentagon spokesman said that President Reagan made the decision "in response to a request from the Egyptian and Sudanese governments to bolster their air defence capability".

"Their normal mission is to provide early warning air defence against air attacks," he said.

The Awacs would take part in combined air defence exercises being carried out by Egypt and Sudan, to demonstrate that the three countries could rapidly deploy forces to deal with aggression.

The Administration has also been considering a Sudanese request for an airlift of anti-aircraft weapons and other equipment.

● Nimeiry accused: Mr Joseph Oduho, political leader of the Sudan Peoples' Liberation Movement, yesterday accused the Sudanese Government of bombing its own people in Khartoum last week (Andrew Lycett reports).

He told a London press conference that the raid was carried out by a Sudanese Air Force MIG 15, which flew from El Obeid in the west of the country. He said the aircraft bombed a partly used radio station, and the houses of two opposition leaders, including the imprisoned head of the Asar Sect, Mr Sadiq al Mahdi.

Two people were killed in this operation, and two more when the Sudanese Army moved in. Mr Oduho added that the bombing had been conducted to allow Egyptian troops to move into Sudan under the two countries' 1976 defence treaty and had been discussed between President Mubarak of Egypt and President Nimeiry on March 11.

Mr Oduho is a veteran southern politician.

Iraq gains ground in bloody swamp battle

Majnoon, Iraq (AFP) - Iraq has retaken a significant part of this oil-rich region of swampy islands, canals and shallow water after a three-week battle that officers acknowledge was extremely costly.

For the first time Iraq has allowed Western reporters to visit the front and see that Iranian forces have been evicted from a large part of Majnoon.

The correspondents saw both the evidence of a bloody battle, bloated, decaying bodies still floating in marshland, weapons piled high, and signs that Iraq had retaken some of the territory.

But they also found evidence that Iraq had not given up the fight.

Peering out from the cover of swamp grass and reeds, the reporters saw a long, earthen dyke. "The Iranians are there," said an Iraqi officer, with a sweep of his hand.

His explanation was suddenly cut short by the characteristic whistle of a falling shell, an explosion and then machine-gun fire.

The commander of the southern war front, said on Saturday: "We have taken enough of the islands. We can finish the job when we want. The combat conditions favour the enemy."

The Iraqis appear to be preparing for an expected Iranian offensive rather than setting up their own.

None of the dead wore a gas mask, although there were many masks in a pile of thousands of confiscated weapons.

Iran, the United States and several European doctors who have treated Iranian wounded say there is evidence Iraq is using chemical weapons, banned by the 1926 Geneva Protocol. Iraq has rejected the charges.

None of the Iraqi soldiers has a mask and it could not be determined whether chemical weapons had been used.

Greece is readjusting the pattern of its relations with the Arab countries and cultivating discreet new ties with Israel. The Government's basic policy on the Middle East remains unchanged. What has changed is that the emphasis in these relations is switching from ideological affinity to considerations of Greek national interest.

A government spokesman defined Greek policy in this way: "Greece supports Israel's right to live within secure borders, but believes that there can be no peace in the area until the Palestinians acquire a homeland."

After almost two-and-half years in power, the ruling Socialists realized that the effusive style of their pro-Arab policy had failed to benefit Greece's political and economic interests in any tangible manner.

Athens became embarrassingly enmeshed in intra-Arab feuds. Hints that it was tolerating antisemitism after the Government's emotional reaction to the invasion of Lebanon resulted in substantial losses for Greek tourism, trade and shipping, and prompted fears of possible repercussions on Greece's ability to raise Western bank loans.

Last week, the Government took advantage of President Karamanlis's visit to Egypt to mend its fences with a country it had so far treated as a pariah and a traitor to the Arab cause.

A senior Greek official was dispatched to Israel last week for the opening of a centre of Hellenic classical studies at Jerusalem university, built with funds donated by surviving Galilee Jews.

This contact is being followed up shortly when Mr Nikos Katsopodis, the Greek Foreign Ministry's political affairs director, goes to Israel to return the visit of his Israeli opposite number, Mr David Kimche, last June, which set the scene for this new phase.

Experience had shown UN non-combatant contingents were incapable of enforcing peace when one of the parties did not want it, they said.

Chicago holds key for US contenders

From Nicholas Ashford, Chicago

Mr Walter Mondale and Senator Gary Hart engaged in frenetic last-minute campaigning yesterday as a new poll showed the two rivals for the Democratic presidential nomination running neck-and-neck in today's crucial primary in Illinois, the first to be held in the industrialized Mid-West.

According to the Washington Post ABC News poll, Senator Hart leads Mr Mondale by 41 per cent to 37 per cent. The Rev Jesse Jackson is third with 16 per cent. Virtually all of his support came from black voters.

However, the poll was taken before Sunday night's televised debate, in which all three contestants hoped to sway the large numbers of uncommitted voters.

The debate produced no clear winners, nor did it break any new ground. Mr Mondale, who came under predictable attack for his ties to organized labour and to "old ideas and old arrangements," managed to appear the most experienced.

Mr Hart convincingly refuted the former Vice-President's charges that he was less

than wholehearted in his commitment to social justice and civil rights. He was not as polished as Mr Mondale, but managed to avoid making the sort of blunder which marred his campaign last week.

Mr Jackson, who made it clear that he intends to stay in the race to the end, was the most relaxed. He also drew the loudest laughs when questioned about being a dark-horse candidate.

"I'm a dark horse, no matter how you put it," he said. "I have no apologies about this horse. It's a good horse and it's a fast horse."

Unlike the debates before other primaries, Sunday's bout was remarkable for its preoccupation with local Chicago politics, especially the bitter power struggle between Mr Harold Washington, the city's

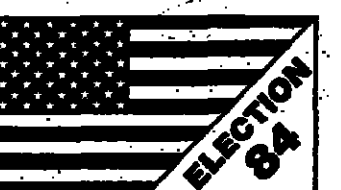
black Mayor, and Mr Edward "Fast Eddie" Vrdolyak, the old-style political boss.

In Chicago, local politics is not only intertwined with national; it is invariably seen as more important. Many residents consider the election of the city's 50 committee men, which also takes place today, as of greater consequence than the choice of a presidential candidate.

Mr Mondale and Mr Hart managed to step gingerly around the peculiarities of the "windy city's" politics, trying to appeal to black voters without upsetting whites. Mr Hart has little support among blacks, and it is unlikely that he won many converts on Sunday night.

He must rely for his support on voters in down-state Illinois and the Chicago suburbs as well as the educated elite in the city itself. Mr Mondale, on the other hand, needs the support of black voters, who comprise 40 per cent of registered Democrats in Chicago, if he is to fight off Senator Hart's challenge.

Mondale campaign aides believe he will win half of the black vote. But others feel he



Israel snub for UN in Lebanon

From Moshe Brilliant Tel Aviv

The Israeli Government has told Mr Brian Urquhart, the Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations, that the UN peacekeeping force now deployed in southern Lebanon was not included in Israel's plans for security in the area.

Mr Urquhart was visiting Israel on a tour of Middle East capitals to ask government leaders how they saw the role for UN forces in the changing situation in Lebanon.

Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister, and Mr Moshe Arens, the Defence Minister, told Mr Urquhart that the UN forces might be useful as referees in places such as the Sinai peninsula, where both parties wanted peace, but not in southern Lebanon.

Experience had shown UN non-combatant contingents were incapable of enforcing peace when one of the parties did not want it, they said.

French farm fury over milk cuts

From Diana Geddes, Paris

A British lorry was hijacked by French farmers near Le Mans yesterday and forced to drive through a police barricade before taking part in one of the country wide series of demonstrations in protest against proposals to cut milk quotas and farm prices adopted by EEC farm ministers.

The lorry, belonging to Swains of Church Stretton, Shropshire, was seized by farmers as the drivers, Mr Harry Teasdale, was waiting to unload his cargo of 15 tons of frozen cow sides at a meat processing plant in Ferte Bernard.

About 400 demonstrators decided to "escort" the lorry to Le Mans. On their way they found their road blocked by a police barricade. Undeterred, they forced their way through, overturning a police van.

The police retaliated with tear gas, but failed to stop the demonstrators. There were no arrests.

Mr Teasdale and his lorry were later released unharmed after taking part in a rowdy demonstration of more than 10,000 farmers. The older farmers apparently had to restrain some of the younger hotheads, who at one point seemed intent on setting the lorry on fire.

Riot police intervened with tear gas to break up the demonstration after farmers tore up part of the railings surrounding the prefecture and bombarded it with stones and other projectiles.

Mr Teasdale telephoned the British Embassy in Paris last night, insisting that he had been treated "like a gentleman" by the French farmers. The embassy kept in close touch with developments during the day.

In Lille, some 4,000 farmers marched through the town yesterday, breaking car windshields and setting light to bales of hay, before bombarding the town hall with eggs. The police did not intervene.

In Rouen, the town's citizens were woken up at 4.30 am by firecrackers and the clatter of milk cans being dragged around

the city centre by protesting farmers.

In the south-west, about 8,000 wine growers demonstrated in Beziers against the inclusion of Spain and Portugal in the European Community and in protest against the worsening crisis in the already overflying table wine industry.

In other demonstrations over the weekend, farmers blocked the airport at Beaufort-Fontaine, preventing the take-off of the helicopter which was to have flown M Jack Lang, Minister for Culture, back to Paris, while young farmers in the Nievre blocked the Paris to Clermont-Ferrand railway for several hours with burning bales of straw.

● SAN SEBASTIAN: Basque fishermen ambushed a lorry convoy at a mountain pass yesterday, burning three more French vehicles with petrol bombs in a continuing protest against France's firing on two Spanish trawlers on March 7 (AFP reports).

An official source here said 150 to 200 fishermen armed with knives and clubs hid in the woods at a pass in the Basque province of Guipuzcoa in wait for the 14-lorry convoy, escorted by Basque police.

The fishermen forced the drivers out of their vehicles before burning the three which bore French registration plates, then clashed with the police escort and with several dozen Spanish police and civil guards sent in as reinforcements.

Six lorries were burnt between Tolosa in the Spanish Basque country, and Pamplona, and a dozen French lorries blocked the Bitorion crossing on the Franco-Spanish border early yesterday.

No arrests were reported.

Bomb backfires

Paris (AFP) - A car blast here, blamed by police on Jewish underworld rivalry, seriously injured a man, who was believed to have been trying to plant a bomb in the vehicle.



Lorin Maazel Not wanted in Vienna.

Few tears at departure of 'glamorous' Maazel

From Richard Bassett, Vienna

Lorin Maazel, the controversial director of the Vienna State Opera, was criticised yesterday for spending too little time in the Austrian capital and too much time abroad on lucrative engagements.

The criticism, by Herr Helmut Zilk, the Austrian minister responsible for the arts, followed news that Dr Maazel's contract would not be renewed when it expired in 1985.

Herr Zilk said that Dr Maazel, who is at present in Canada, would probably be succeeded by Dr Claus Helmuth Dresch, the present director of the Zurich Opera.

The choice reflects Herr Zilk's belief that the development of this most temperamental of opera houses is best placed in the hands of a proven

administrator rather than a conductor with a glamorous international reputation.

The announcement of Dr Maazel's impending departure has been greeted with considerable euphoria here. His attempts to reform the conservative repertoire system by reducing the number of operas performed have been relentlessly attacked by many Viennese critics. One leading conservative Vienna newspaper published three hostile articles last week.

Despite the widely publicized complaints, Herr Zilk angrily denied that Dr Maazel had been the victim of an antisemitic campaign. He knew of no evidence, he told journalists, to suggest that the conductor had not been welcomed warmly in Vienna.

New Meese inquiry opens

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

The US Justice Department has opened preliminary investigations into the finances of Mr Edwin Meese, a close friend of President Reagan and Attorney General-designate.

The inquiries will centre on whether a special prosecutor should investigate a \$15,000 (£10,000) interest-free loan received by Mr Meese's wife from a friend, Mr Edwin Thomas, who was later ap-

pointed to a government job. Mr Thomas's wife also later given a job in the Reagan Administration.

Mr Meese failed to list the loan on his 1981 and 1982 financial disclosure statements as required by the Ethics in Government Act. Senate hearings into his appointment as Attorney General have been postponed.



Outward bound: Astronauts begin training for the new US shuttle Atlantis which will carry four Europeans into space next year. Dr Wubbo Ockels (Netherlands), Dr Ulf Merbold and Dr Ernst Messerschmid (West Germany), Dr Bonnie J Dunbar (US), Dr Reinhard Furrer (West Germany) and Lt-Col Guion Bluford (US) will train for 160 days at the German Aviation and Space Research Station outside Cologne.

Indifference, fear and the rebels dominate election in Salvador countryside

From Alan Tomlinson, La Palma, El Salvador

A Government agronomist working in the Salvadoran town of La Palma gestured to where the *muchachos*, a group of a dozen or so fresh-faced young guerrillas, lolled on a street corner, rifles slung across their shoulders.

"If the soldiers don't come," he said, "the people simply will not vote."

La Palma, 55 miles north of San Salvador in northern Chalatenango province, is a community of perhaps 12,000 people. The guerrillas moved in when the army pulled out nearly three months ago, after the nearby garrison of El Paraiso fell to the rebels.

Now, with less than a week to go before the presidential election, the talking point here is not who will win but whether the electoral process will reach the town at all.

La Palma is by no means unique. Towns in much the same situation are to be found throughout the third of the country estimated to be under guerrilla control.

I found a group of guerrillas on the road into town handing out anti-election propaganda to the occupants of buses and farm lorries. Later they took over the local schoolroom to expound

their programmes to more than a hundred teenage students. In the evening a group of workmen listened to much the same speech.

"If we don't want the Army to come in here and make elections possible, then they won't come in," said the leader of the guerrilla group, who told me he had taken up the armed struggle to overthrow the Government seven years ago at the age of 16.

"How many men will the Army need carry out elections in all the places they don't control?"

"But we are not trying to prevent elections, we just want to people to know that, with or without them, things will not change. If the Mayor comes out and puts up a table and says 'vote here', well, in that case, they should vote."

Most people I spoke to seemed more concerned at the prospect of the 50 colonies fine (about £9, quite a large sum in this part of the world) for those who fail to have their identity cards stamped at the polling station to prove they voted.

"People talk a lot about this," said a storekeeper. "But it is hardly going to be our fault if there is nowhere to vote, so how can they fine us?"

"Politicians," sneered a middle-aged workman. "Most people here detest them all, but they will vote if they can, out of fear and to avoid the fine."

"I would like to vote because it's a start, a step towards peace," said a woman shopkeeper, "but I don't suppose we are going to have elections here."

"We think the *muchachos* will let the Mayor put a polling station in the school so that we can avoid the fine. Or maybe officials will come up from the capital, although I expect they will be too afraid," said one of a group of students. "But afterwards, once everybody has got his card stamped, I think the *muchachos* will burn the ballot box."

Most of the people I spoke to seemed unwilling, either through indifference or fear of the fine, to make their way to another town.

A minority who were keen to vote were mainly women. The majority, mainly the men, did not seem to care very much one way or the other. These elections, they said, were not going to change anything in El Salvador, and certainly not for them.

Edging out tradition in Hassan's desert kingdom



Morocco's economic problems have accelerated the exodus from traditional villages like Seti-Fatma (left) in Ourika Valley in the Atlas Mountains to the teeming towns like Marrakesh (right). Godfrey Morrison writes from Rabat. Now 42 per cent of the population lives in the urban areas compared with 35 per cent ten years ago.

Life for Morocco's country dwellers, if picturesque, has been far from easy, particularly in the past five years when agriculture has taken a beating from consistently poor rainfall.

Last weekend, with the normal rainy season approaching its end, and once again below average rainfall in prospect, King Hassan called on his subjects, almost all of them Muslims, to pray for rain.



Mainly the young depart, leaving their elders and young children to till the land. In the past they have left not only for Morocco's cities, but for France to seek work.

But now that demographic safety valve has been shut, with French governments introducing increasingly stringent immigration regulations, some young Moroccans are seeking their fortunes as workers in

the Gulf. Now the largest single component of foreign exchange earnings is the money sent home by Moroccans working abroad.

The impoverishment of the countryside has produced a politically volatile mass of rootless, urban unemployed Moroccans, once a major food exporter, now has to rely on massive grain imports.

(Photographs: Warren Harrison)

Prisoners of conscience



Tunisia

Salah Boughanmi

By Caroline Moorehead

Salah ben Mohamed Boughanmi was one of 46 people arrested by police in the summer of 1981 and brought to trial in September on charges of belonging to an unauthorized organization - the *Mouvement de la Tendance Islamique* - of defaming a head of state, and of distributing false information. A teacher from the province of Kef, Mr Boughanmi was among those few who received the maximum sentence of 11 years imprisonment. On appeal, the sentence has been reduced to 10.

Neither Mr Boughanmi, nor any of the other defendants, was charged with any violent act, and observers at the trial believe that legal procedure fell short of internationally agreed standards of impartiality.

Aged 30, married with three young children, he is now being held in Bourj El-Roumi prison, near Bizerta, where conditions are said to be very poor.



Salah Boughanmi: Held in "torture" jail.

Red-baiting major plays to gallery

San Salvador (AFP) - Major Roberto D'Aubuisson, cheered on by thousands of screaming fans, staged an election campaign allegory here in the form of a rigged football match.

Twelve thousand supporters turned up at a stadium to cheer the former Army major, who has been widely linked to Salvadoran death squad activities, and who is standing as the extreme right-wing candidate in the elections next Sunday.

Anti-communism was taken for granted by the crowd, who had been brought to the capital by lorry and bus from all over the country. But the rally treated the Christian Democratic contender, Señor José Napoleón Duarte, as equally villainous.

On the field, one team was called Arena, the acronym of the Nationalist Republican Alliance, with a player labelled D'Aubuisson as goalkeeper. Another player, who was con-

stantly fouled by the opposing "communists," teared, represented the long-suffering public.

The referee was labelled Magaña (representing President Alvaro Magaña). He outrageously favoured the communist side, abetted by an official named after the US Ambassador to El Salvador.

Señor Duarte featured as center-forward for the communist team, which came on the field wearing green (the Christian Democrats' colour) track suits, and then stripped down to their real colours, red uniforms stamped with the hammer and sickle. They carried watermelons - green outside, red inside.

President Reagan was parodied on the sidelines as being unable to decide which side to back, until he cheered the predictable winners: Arena by 8-2 (two goals having been awarded to the communists by the referee).

Brussels prepares for 'masculist' onslaught

From Ian Murray, Brussels

What is claimed to be the first ever European petition for men's rights is to be handed in to the European Parliament by a new "masculist" group, which has been set up by Brussels to protect the male of the species.

The emerging European Men's Movement has organized its first conference in Brussels next month under the title "Daddy". Two ERM MPs have already been booked to speak on the subject of parental equality in the interest of the child.

The European masculist movement is being organized in Brussels by Mr Hugo de Garis, an Australian computer operator, a divorced father of two, who means to make men's rights as important as women's rights have already become. He claims that there are already some 20,000 militant masculists in Europe.

His petition points out among other things that male life expectancy is 5-8 years less

than that for women; that men and not women are called on to do military service; and that men have less right to access of their children after a divorce.

Mr de Garis also claims that huge numbers of men are being battered by their wives, but because they are treated with derision and disbelief, statistics do not emerge.

Mr de Garis believes that there should be committees set up to protect men in the way that so many have already been set up to protect women's rights. He is pressing the European Parliament to form its own men's rights committee.

The masculist movement already has several hundred groups in the United States and a number have been recently formed in Europe, including the Families Need Fathers group in Britain. But so far, Mr de Garis says, the British are not flocking to join because they are going through the "male feminist guilt phase".

Church mission on apartheid

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

A delegation of South African States and Western Europe to draw attention to the "untold misery and suffering" which they say has been inflicted on about 3.5 million people forcibly resettled over the past quarter of a century in pursuit of apartheid.

Their indictment of the Government is contained in a document entitled *Relocations: The Churches' report on forced removals*, which was drawn up by the South African Council of Churches and the Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference. The report will be presented to churchmen and politicians abroad.

The delegation, headed by the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Pretoria, Mr George Daniel, will visit Britain, America, Sweden, The Netherlands, West Germany and Switzerland as well as the United Nations and the Vatican. Its members also include representatives of the Anglican, Methodist and Lutheran churches and the Coloured (mixed-race) branch of the Dutch Reformed Church.

The only church which is not

a member of the council is the white Dutch Reformed Church, to which nearly all Afrikaners, who account for about 60 per cent of the white population, belong. Despite growing internal dissent, it still holds that apartheid is justified on scriptural and theological grounds.

The churches' report claims that the number of people removed so far is larger than "the forced migration of various Soviet peoples imposed by Stalin" and compares with the seven million deported by the Nazis during the Second World War. It also estimates that about 1.8 million more people are threatened with removal.

The churches draw heavily on exhaustive field-work and research conducted by the Surplus People Project which was established four years ago by concerned academics and social workers. Their five-volume report, *Forced removals in South Africa*, was published last year and is accepted as the authoritative work.

The biggest category of removals since 1960, involving more than a million people, concerns blacks evicted from

white-owned farms and land in the countryside. These include full-time farm-workers and their families or blacks living as tenants on white land and paing either cash or supplying their labour as rental.

The Government's critics argue that while small peasant producers have been forced off the land by economic forces in many other parts of the world, South Africa is unique in prohibiting those evicted from moving to the towns and in forcing them into the overpopulated and impoverished tribal reserves or homelands.

About 53 per cent of all blacks live in these areas (compared with 40 per cent 20 years ago), and the rest, although living and working outside, are deemed to be homeland citizens. As these areas are given "independence", so the blacks assigned to them cease legally to be South Africans.

The churches say this system serves the racialist political and economic goals of the white regime by allowing into "white" South Africa only those blacks whose labour is required.

Americans 'plotting rebel rule in Afghanistan'

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Moscow yesterday accused the United States of plotting to set up a rebel "puppet government" in Afghanistan in opposition to the Soviet-backed regime of President Babrak Karmal in Kabul, the Afghan capital. Moscow said a 3,000-strong American-backed rebel force had tried to set up a provisional government in a "liberated zone" with its centre at Urgun, near the border with Pakistan. The attempt had failed however, and 600 rebels had been killed.

The charge came in a report from Urgun by correspondents from *Pravda* and the armed forces paper, *Red Star*. The report gave no date for the incident beyond saying it had taken place late last year. It made no mention of Soviet involvement - there are an estimated 105,000 Soviet troops in Afghanistan - and suggested the operation had been carried out by regular Afghan army troops.

The Afghan Army has been plagued by low morale and desertions, especially after the extension of military service from three years to four earlier this month.

Yesterday's revelation of the Urgun fighting seemed designed to counter this. *Pravda* said that Afghan troops had shown high military skill and courage in defeating the rebel forces, which *Pravda* said had infiltrated across the Pakistani border into Pakia province. *Pravda* claimed the United States "and its allies" had promised the *Basmachi* (bandits) immediate recognition and assistance if they succeeded in establishing a rival Afghan government at Urgun.

The Soviet press, including *Red Star*, had reported fighting at Urgun but not the attempt to set up a provisional government. *Pravda* said yesterday that a large number of rebels had been taken prisoner in the action, and weapons of British, American and Chinese manufacture had been captured. It said the 3,000 rebels had reached the outskirts of Urgun and were shelling residential quarters with mortars and rocket-propelled grenades before being stopped by Afghan troops.

Canberra's admission of Asians denounced

From Tony Duboulin, Melbourne

The continued entry into Australia of Asians could "weaken or explode" the tolerance extended to immigrants over the past 30 years, according to Professor Geoffrey Blainey, professor of history at Melbourne University and author of the book, *Tyranny of Distance*.

Asians have become "the favoured majority" under Australia's immigration programme and it might be better to give 1,000 dollars (about £625) to each refugee to go to a place further away, he said.

Addressing 1,000 Rotary members at Warrnambool, about 200 miles west of Melbourne, Professor Blainey said: "Rarely in the history of the modern world has a nation given such preference to a tiny ethnic minority of its population as the Australian Government has done."

Expanding on his weekend speech, Professor Blainey said yesterday that "malice, hatred, racial tension and movement out of certain suburbs" could occur if Asian immigration continued at its present rate.

Because Australia was geographically close to South-East Asia, it did not mean it should have an immigration policy weighted towards that region. In the last resort, public opinion, not politicians, would determine whether the policy succeeded, he said.

A spokesman for Mr Stewart West, the Minister for Immigration, said there was disappointment that the professor had not looked at the assumption on which Australia's immigration policy was based. If he had, he would have seen "that the increasing asianization was inevitable".

West Germany and high technology: The remedy Elite universities to the rescue

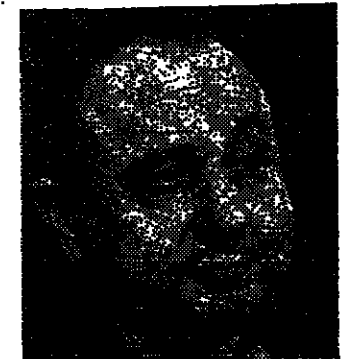
From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Unless West Germany broke the state monopoly on higher education and set up private elite universities to concentrate the nation's research on technologies of the future, it would never catch up with Japan and the United States, Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, said three months ago in a controversial speech that has unleashed a fierce argument over higher education.

The country's large, state-run universities, he said, had been severely damaged by the attempt in the last decade to make them all equal. They had instead all become mediocre, with disastrous results for research, for academic excellence and for the training of the top scientists needed to restore Germany's sagging reputation at the pinnacle of Western achievement.

He therefore called for the establishment, as a start, of two privately-financed, unstate-subsidised elite institutions specialising in what he called the key technologies of the future: micro Electronics and biotechnology.

Modelled on the California Institute of Technology and admitting only about 2,000



Herr Genscher: Equality drive has been disastrous.

students, these universities would be free to attract the best teachers, to select the most brilliant students and to introduce innovations that would offer vital competition to the state system.

The universities, financed by industry and offering scholarships to anyone unable to afford the fees, would attract venture capital companies to their areas and forge the close links with high-technology industry that have made such places as Harvard, Stanford and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology so successful in the United States.

For West Germany, these

radical proposals break the established consensus on equal opportunity and call into question the higher education reforms of the 1970s.

But many people say such a shake-up is overdue. There are now 1,200,000 students, more than four times the number in 1960 and by 1991 the total is expected to reach 1,500,000. Everyone who passes the *Abitur*, the school-leaving examination, has a right to place, although overcrowding has meant the clearing-house system now largely determines who goes where.

Universities are controlled by the federal states and funded by central government. Past policy has been to even out the distinctions between institutions and lecturers' salaries are strictly controlled within federal norms.

The result, Herr Genscher and many academics say, is the worst of both worlds: there are no real prestige institutions left and the vast numbers at each institution leave little possibility for small classes, or real scholarship. University staff are bogged down in administration and generous research funds are spread so evenly that there are no concentrations of excellence in the various fields.

Professor Wolfgang Wild, president of the Technical

University of Munich, said recently: "The intellectual sparks which glitter in the stimulating atmospheres of Harvard and MIT, Tokyo or Kyoto, Oxford or Cambridge, are extinguished here in the ashes of prevailing mediocrity. Researchers, able to achieve the extraordinary when working at a top-class university abroad, achieve only the ordinary on their return to German universities."

Herr Genscher was inundated with letters supporting his criticisms, which he intended to make a main theme at the next conference of his Free Democratic Party. Several newspapers also took up the theme. But the Social Democrats, former education ministers and even government officials and research-funding authorities, have poured scorn on his proposals.

Critics say the elite universities would be socially divisive, catering mainly for the middle classes and would reintroduce harmful distinctions between academic institutions. Herr Heinz Riesenhuber, the Minister of Technology, said his colleague's ideas were unrealistic, as they were too expensive. West Germany could not afford the extra DM500m (£130m) for elite institutions.

Famine aid appeal by Nkomo

From Stephen Taylor, Harare

Mr Joshua Nkomo, the Zimbabwe Opposition leader, said yesterday he was pleased that the Government was allowing food into the curfew-bound province of Matabeleland South. He added, however, that there was still a danger of mass starvation, and appealed for the Red Cross to be allowed to launch a relief operation.

Speaking at a press conference at his Harare home, Mr Nkomo said he had confirmation that since last week some food had been reaching the estimated 420,000 people confined in the curfew area since February 3.

"A substantial number" - he could not give figures - had already died of starvation or been killed by the Army during attempts to purge anti-government guerrillas, he said. The curfew area is in its third year of drought, and all food distri-

bution centres were closed six weeks ago.

Mr Nkomo said that even now only some rural stores were being allowed to open for short periods, and stocks were quickly exhausted by desperate peasants.

"The Government must take the situation seriously, or by the end of the curfew we will be faced with whole villages having been wiped out," he added.

Since the curfew was imposed on the 2,500 square mile southern province there have been persistent reports of Army brutality against the civilian population. They are mainly supporters of Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zapu Party, but are alleged by the Government to be assisting guerrillas. There are widespread reports of killings which are unverifiable because of the Army cordon around the area.

At yesterday's press conference Mr Nkomo also said that he had to call off a rally in the midlands town of Kadoma at the weekend, after it was disrupted by youth members of the ruling Zanu (PF) Party.

He said that the youths, singing Zanu slogans, had attacked his supporters with sticks and axes, stoned cars belonging to the party and cut wires to the public address system.

On the advice of party officials he had stayed away from the Ramuka stadium, and after two hours of violence it was decided to abandon the rally. About 10 Zapu supporters were taken to hospital and a group of central committee members were only able to leave the stadium when police dispersed the youths with tear gas.

Trade tops US agenda in Peking

Peking (AFP) - Mr Donald Regan, the United States Treasury Secretary, yesterday

talked with Chinese officials aimed at leading to increased bilateral economic cooperation and preparing for President Reagan's visit here next month.

Mr Regan was in Peking for a three-day meeting of the US-Sino Joint Economic Com-

mittee set up in 1979 by former President Carter and Mr Deng Xiaoping. The committee has met annually since 1980.

Mr Regan was also due to meet Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Prime Minister, and Mr Wang Binqian, the Finance Minister. The Treasury Secretary said his visit would focus on plans for an agreement on avoiding double taxation, which would

reassure American businessmen considering trading in China.

The two sides are also to discuss an investment protection agreement which, like the fiscal measures, could be signed during President Reagan's visit.

Mr Regan said the issue of high-technology sales could be raised if the Chinese wanted to discuss it.

The Soviet press, including *Red Star*, had reported fighting at Urgun but not the attempt to set up a provisional government. *Pravda* said yesterday that a large number of rebels had been taken prisoner in the action, and weapons of British, American and Chinese manufacture had been captured. It said the 3,000 rebels had reached the outskirts of Urgun and were shelling residential quarters with mortars and rocket-propelled grenades before being stopped by Afghan troops.

The two sides are also to discuss an investment protection agreement which, like the fiscal measures, could be signed during President Reagan's visit.

Mr Regan said the issue of high-technology sales could be raised if the Chinese wanted to discuss it.

50 من الأصل



Now, the end of the inflexible business loan.

That tied-down feeling. Most people who borrow long term get it.

Tied down to a fixed interest rate.

Tied down to the uncertainty of a base rate that has, in the last ten years, fluctuated 70 times or so.

The solution could be a Lloyds Bank Business Loan.

A unique and flexible loan that not only gives you the choice of a fixed or base rate linked interest rate

but also allows you to change this arrangement every five years throughout the term of the loan. For the right proposition, the term could even be as long as 20 years.

There are other flexibilities too.

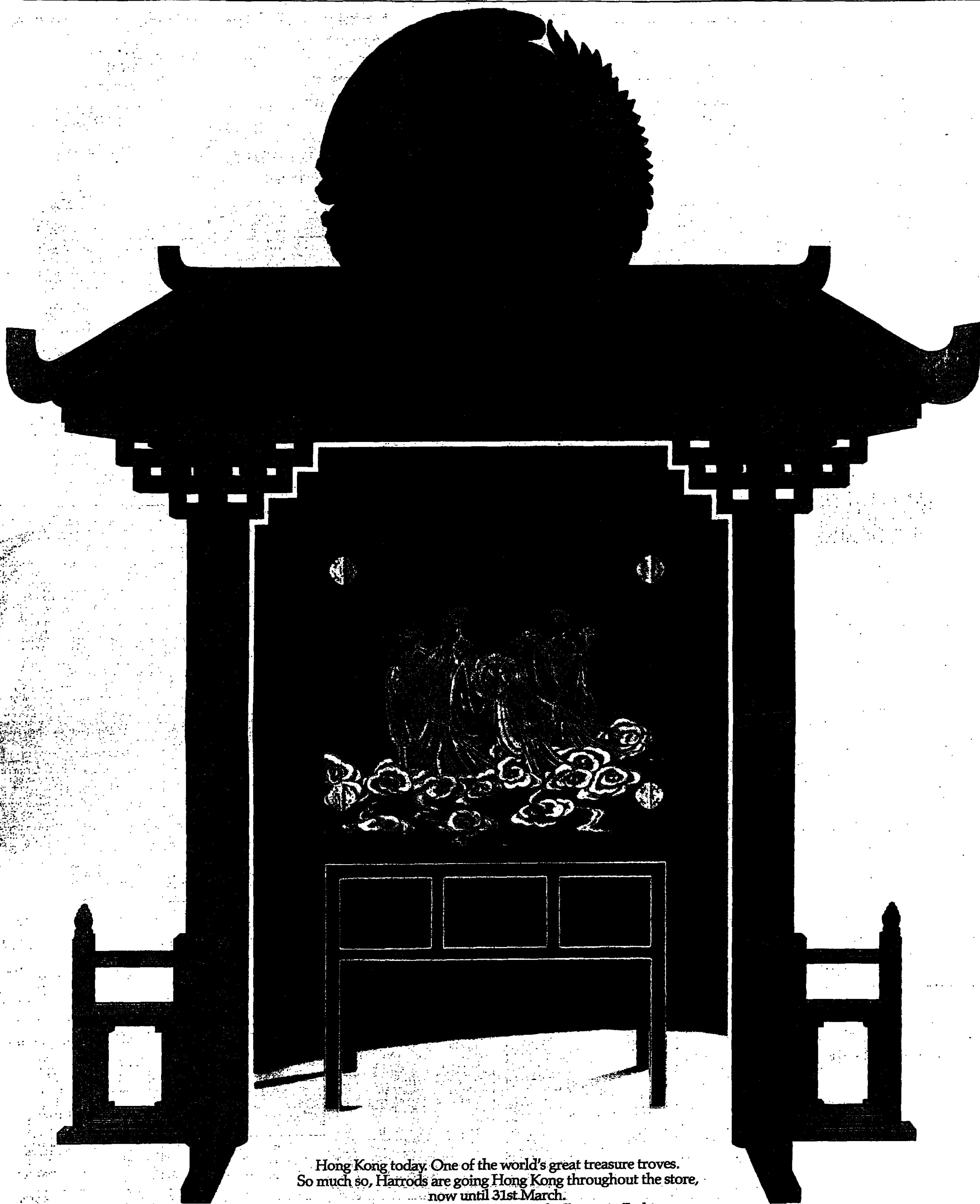
Staggered repayment terms to allow minimum or no capital repayment in the more difficult early period of the loan.

And there's the ability to restructure arrangements when your circumstances change. Talk to your local Lloyds Bank manager.

No strings attached.



Lloyds Bank



Hong Kong today. One of the world's great treasure troves.
So much so, Harrods are going Hong Kong throughout the store,
now until 31st March.

A sensational introduction to a new brilliance in Fashion,
Menswear, Jewellery, Art and Craft and, of course, Furniture.

Cocktail cabinet of exceptional charm. Finished in
Coral-lacquered wood, hand-decorated in the Chinese manner.

Also in Black. Other colours available to order.

60" high. Made in Hong Kong.

Exclusive to Harrods £675

Oriental Furniture. Third Floor.

Carriage free over a wide area.



Harrods

Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7XL
01-730 1234



Angela G



M. J. H. P.

SPECTRUM

Nicholas Shakespeare discovers more of Europe's displaced royals

Compton Miller talks to a man who will make records on an uninhabited island

Facelift for a Virgin

Spray soaks the passengers of the sleek white and gold-hulled "Cigarette" powerboat as we skim through the Sir Francis Drake Channel. Ahead lies Necker Island, a tiny Caribbean atoll that will soon echo to the beat of the world's top rock musicians.

Behind this electronic Robinson Crusoe fantasy lies Richard Branson, multi-millionaire founder of Virgin Records and the new cut-price Virgin Atlantic Airline. He is investing more than £2,500,000 in a remote, previously uninhabited volcanic outcrop. He believes rock bands will queue up to hire a studio that provides them with the latest computer technology, the luxury of a five-star hotel and solitude of a private estate. The only snag is getting there.

Necker is in the British Virgin Islands, about 200 miles from the nearest international airport at San Juan in Puerto Rico. From there I had to fly to St Thomas in the US Virgin Islands and transfer to the Romba Charger, a high-speed ferry that hurtles between the principal islands. For the final journey Branson's architect Jon Oman picked me up in Tortola, the British archipelago's capital.

Until 18 months ago wild goats and wildflowers were the main inhabitants of 74-acre Necker. Since then labourers have dug a small harbour and jetty inside the dangerous coral reef, installed an electricity generator, built sewerage, water-storage and staff accommodation and almost completed Branson's hilltop winter palace.

When Boy George, Michael Jackson and the rest arrive here there will be 11 bedrooms for them and their families and entourage, a 65-foot swimming pool, floodlight tennis court, satellite communications system, solar water-heating and heliport. A refrigeration room will ensure enough lobsters, quail's eggs, kiwi-fruit and other delicacies to fuel the creative juices. The bar, stocked with rock stars' essential cordials, champagne, bourbon and vodka, should also aid the hit-making process. A yacht will patrol the waters to repel over-inquisitive tourists and journalists.

The busy tycoon has only visited Necker three times. He bought it six years ago from an English educational trust set up by Geoffrey Chobani, son of the aviation pioneer.

"I had no intention of buying an island", recalls Branson, aged 34. "But I was in New



York one day when someone asked whether I had named Virgin Records after the Virgin Islands. I said no, actually, where are they?

"We dug out a map and when I had found out I rang this company in Newcastle that specializes in selling islands. They told me about Necker and two neighbouring ones for sale. Why didn't I fly down for an inspection, they asked."

"I wasn't very serious then, but I thought it would be a nice way to spend the weekend before travelling back to Europe. They laid out cars and a helicopter so we could buzz the properties and have a really good look."

Branson knew immediately which one he wanted. "Necker was the remotest, largest and most beautiful. I don't think I've ever seen such spectacular views in my life. But I wasn't prepared to pay the price. So I put in a much lower bid and, to my surprise, it was accepted."

"The British Governor was a bit sceptical about me building the studio at first. Pop people don't have very good reputations, do they? So I had to ask Mr Honey-Couts of Coutts Bank to drop him a line."

"Developing an island from scratch isn't easy", admits Branson. "Necker had nothing, not even fresh water. We've had to import everything, except the stone. The roof and beams are of Brazilian hardwood, designed to stay put even in a hurricane. We chose the timber ourselves on the Amazon. Had it cut to plan, numbered and then brought to Necker by barge. It all fits together like a jigsaw."

When the bulldozers finally leave later this year they will hardly have denied Virgin's £13m profits from records, films, books, video, discs and cable TV. "It will cost us well over £2,500,000", admits the founder and chief shareholder. As an extra safeguard the buildings are designed so that they can easily become an exclusive hotel or Howard Hughes-type residence.

"I think we'll prove particularly attractive to groups working out of New York and to tax-exiled British superstars who don't want to spend their 90 days allowance in a cold London studio. Anyway, I'm not fussed. The beauty is that the place's value has gone up faster than the cost of development."

Italy: enjoys the Palio by telephone



Known to his relations as Uncle Beppo, and to his people as the May King, Umberto II of Italy ruled for little more than that month in 1946. Ousted by a referendum, which identified the House of Savoy rather too closely with the fascists, he spent his remaining years near Lisbon. At the Villa Italia he wrote five volumes on the portraits prints and medals of the House of Savoy and became a tourist attraction for visiting Italians.

"So you want to see Umberto?" Indeed, I told the odd little philosopher, I did. Though I had spotted the last King of Italy at embassy parties tapping his feet to various orchestras and bobbing his domed head to bowing guests, he was always closely attended by an entourage. My letters requesting an audience received polite refusals and lobbying from mutual friends produced no reaction. "Well, you won't get very far until you sign your name in his visitors' book. He looks at it every evening."

That afternoon I walked up the drive to the Villa Italia, a pink house on a stretch of coastline known as the Boca do Inferno - the mouth of hell. And in the hall, beneath a portrait of Victor Emmanuel III, I added my name to a lengthy list of Italian well-wishers. Some days later I received a phone call from a Count Monasterolo. His Majesty would be pleased to grant me an audience.

A week later I was ushered into the presence of a tall, bald man. His dark suit hung crumpled from him. As I bowed, he shook hands, smiling, and indicated a chair. His smile seemed a permanent feature. When he spoke he leaned into the corner of his seat rubbing his long fingers together.

To start with, I was worried about the extent to which I could ask questions. It had been made clear that this was to be an audience, not an interview. Also, by a sustained piece of stage management, of closed doors and suspicious counts, Umberto came across as every inch a king. Little daylight penetrated the windows of the Villa Italia, and the magic was, by and large, intact.

"I am a great admirer of your queen," he began in a high-pitched voice. "I saw her lately and looking very well." Did he then, I ventured, think monarchy had a future?

"There are few royal families left now. When I came there was the royal family of Spain, the royal family of France and my Austrian cousins, the Habsburgs, who had to leave Hungary. So we were a bigish group. And then the Duke of Braganca was allowed to come back. Now they've all gone back to their countries, except the Duke of Braganca."

Was he able to keep in contact with his own country? "I've got a big office in Rome where all the press is sent. I am in touch with them more or less every day; a lot of faithful supporters."

Every year, he told me, he listened on the telephone to the sound of cheers which sent the horses racing round the town square of Siena for the Palio. To be banished from Italy was "very, very frustrating, a very sad feeling. The busloads who arrived to take snaps of him and sign his book were some consolation. "They're all I've got to look forward to." But every month for him was May 1946. "I remember it very well, every detail. And I remember very well those who were with me at that time." He nodded silently, his eyes straying. For an instant the smile dissolved.

Umberto the fourth and last king of Italy did not live to see his land again. He died in Geneva on March 18, 1983 with the words "Italia" on his lips.

The throne that sits in a Turin museum is unlikely to be occupied by

Adapted from Nicholas Shakespeare's *The Men Who Would Be King*, published by Sidgwick and Jackson on March 29.

Princes of nothing



Heirs and graces: Umberto and family in 1946, top; Leka of Albania and wife, above left; Alexander of Yugoslavia

his son and heir, Victor Emmanuel IV married a water-ski champion instead of a princess and in 1978 fatally shot a young German tourist off the island of Corsica. Of his three sisters, one has the dubious distinction of having a germ named after her - Micrococcus viologabrieliae - which, apparently, produces pretty mauve patches when planted on a potato.

Yugoslavia: lessons in Serbo-Croat



Crown Prince Alexander of Yugoslavia, a godson to our Queen, is descended from a pig-farmer who is meant to have killed his own mother, by bonneting her with a hive of bees. The last time Alexander saw his country was in a Claridge's suite. It was declared Yugoslav soil for the occasion of his birth in 1945. His father, the tragic King Peter, ruled for only 10 days before Hitler's invasion of Yugoslavia in 1940.

"If the US and Britain had given their full backing to my father, we would be a democracy today," Alexander told me confidently at his father-in-law's house near Seville. His accent was a mixture of public school and the army, well-sauced with words like "disaster", "terrific", "marvellous". "I'm not saying that we wouldn't have problems - all countries have problems - but it would have been very different and that much better for Europe."

What did he think of his father's plan to join up with the resistance leader General Mihailovic? He smiled. "It would have been marvellous. The fairy-tale came true. The king coming down in his parachute. I just hope he would have landed all right." Did he regret that King Peter never made the jump? "I do, because I was a military

man myself, and what - what great fun."

It was as a lieutenant in the British army that he received news of his father's death in Denver, Colorado. There was a move to make him king. "A rather absurd move by some very loyal monarchists. As I said, king of what? I could not be king because there was no parliament to ratify the situation and above all the country wasn't a democracy." There were two other reasons. He was a member of the Queen's Royal Lancasters and a naturalized British subject.

Alexander had joined the army in 1965, after an education at Gordonstoun (he was in the same house as Prince Charles) and Millfield, "which was much better." He served with a tank division in Germany, became army ski-champion and spent six months in County Tyrone.

Today he works for an insurance company in Washington, DC under the name of Alexander Karageorgievich. "Because it puts most people at ease." He has not completely forgotten his inheritance though. "One's got to be a realist, but I think it's a going concern. I think it's a solution for uniting the country - all the different ethnic groups. Yugoslavia's in a terrible mess. There should be an alternative government and I would welcome a chance to be part of that, to see the democratic process return. I'm not a confirmed monarchist, but I do believe there is great admiration and support for my family there. On Moscow Radio they call me the Naked Prince, the Prince of Nothing. What an honour. And in Yugoslav papers, too, they lie about me forming a government in exile. But at least they mention me. There's even some idea I should go back as a puppet and endorse the regime on television, but I wouldn't do that."

For Alexander, exile is not too awful. As an insurance executive he knows the odds against becoming king. As an insurance executive he also knows that odd things happen. Once a week he has a lesson in Serbo-Croat just in case.

Albania: still planning his come-back coup



Leka I is the son of that legendary king, Zog of Albania. In 1928 Zog took up a throne which had been offered to the cricketer C B Fry, the first Earl of Inchcape (who refused with the words "It is not in my line"), and Colonel Aubrey Herbert, on whom John Buchan based the character Greenmantle. Zog's rule was cut short by Italy's invasion of Albania in 1939. In exile he tried to buy this newspaper but, he warned, "I won't give a penny more than ten million for it."

King Leka of Albania, as he was proclaimed in the Hotel Bristol, Paris, is almost seven feet tall. I caught him on a flying visit to London where he was staying with a Colonel Inigo Jones. When he spoke, taking his glasses on and off, it was with a faint South African accent, interspersed with "Look you." He had, he explained, just come from breakfast with Frederick Forsyth whom he was persuading to write a book about his father.

Chain-smoking from a Thai cigarette case engraved with a trumpeting elephant, King Leka made it clear that he was a man of action. Not for him an easy retirement in Estoril or a life of obscurity. "I am primarily a military animal," he said. "I would respond militarily rather than politically or diplomatically. I was born with my ideas focussed on one thing - Albania, and how to free it."

Only three days of Leka's childhood were spent in Albania. After Sandhurst he built up his own paramilitary organization - financing the men's training through the sale of tractors, cranes and harbour equipment.

The number, and whereabouts, of his men is a jealously guarded secret "because I've been suckered a couple of times."

In 1975 Leka became the commander-in-chief of the Council for the Liberation of Ethnic Albania. It was, he admits, "like hiding behind your own finger." He took certain actions which were basically terrorist but carefully planned that they would not cause loss of life - just to show he was a force to be reckoned with. An M72 rocket was fired at the Albanian Embassy in Paris. There were no casualties. The telegraph and telex links between Albania and Western Europe were cut - "for which we needed frogmen. Frogmen," he added impressively, "are difficult to get." In his last bid to excite interest, Leka had one of his platoons materialized at King Zog's grave in France, posing for photographs in their uniforms.

On 1977 Leka was imprisoned by the Thai government on a charge of arms smuggling. He denied the charge, but boasts that the experience was useful. "My son," he had once been told by the Tunisian president, "if you spent 11 years in prison, that will make you a statesman." Leka sent a telegram on his release. "Will six days give me the aspirations of being a statesman?" A return cable bore the word: "Yes."

Leka's operations have been put on ice since 1979 when police discovered a large cache of arms at his house near Madrid. They refused to accept it was for his own protection. With a pistol at his hip and grenades hanging from his belt, Leka flew to South Africa where he now lives on a farm near Randburg.

If Albania is freed from communist rule, he will hold a referendum for his people to decide whether they want a monarchy or a republic. If a monarchy, King Zog's constitution of 1928 could provide a starting point. Leka is a little rusty on certain points of this constitution, such as how often elections are held. In exile there are things that even kings forget.

Tomorrow: The would-be Queen of England

moreover... Miles Kington

Things that go sock in the night

People Who Have Very Unusual Jobs Indeed

18. The Professor of Sock Psychology at Milton Keynes University

When Sam Kitteridge announces his job at parties, people tend to blink and ask him to repeat it. Did he say sock psychology?

"No, sock psychology. I say. They then ask me if I study the behaviour of people who wear socks. No, no, I tell them, I study the behaviour of socks themselves."

The study is based on Kitteridge's profound conviction that socks behave in a way quite different from anything else in nature.

"You yourself must have noticed that if you put a pair of socks into a washing machine for an ordinary wash cycle, you will almost always get either 11 socks out or nine. Now, where does that extra sock come from? And where does that missing sock disappear to?"

Kitteridge also studies the way in which single socks with no matching sock build up in a household till there are as many as 20 or 30 unmatched socks, some of them not claimed by any member of the house. One of them is almost always a long red towelling sock.

He is also intrigued by the way in which a pair can increase to a trio of identical socks, as well as by the curious phenomenon of the unknown name-tape.

This simply means the way in which socks, usually grey school socks, can turn up with names sewn on them which do not match any of the family's names. Very often, these names are of people totally unknown to the family.

This sort of study may seem useless to people not familiar with academic research, but Kitteridge is convinced he is on the edge of an amazing discovery. He believes the socks "contain the secret to some form of energy which is totally unknown to science."

I know it sounds odd, but the only explanation for all these happenings is that socks move around in a way which we do not yet understand, and if only we could crack this form of movement we might be able to harness it for more useful ends.

You yourself must have noticed that if you hang up a wash-load of socks on a washing-line, say over the bath, then the next time you come back some of the socks are lying in the bath. They may even fall on top of you as you take a bath. There is no way known to science in which those socks could move.

At the moment he is working on a theory that socks somehow derive energy from the spinning of the washing machines in which they find themselves.

His early research was done in a Milton Keynes laundrette, but he was banned from there for using too many machines and he has now set up his research lab with six machines, four basins and a complicated system of washing lines.

So far he has isolated a pair of black dinner socks and a large wollen Scottish stocking which seem to have unusual hidden energies, but it's still too early in the day to say anything conclusive.

I have, at last, established that this behaviour is limited to socks. After exhaustive washing and drying tests, pants, vests and handkerchiefs, I am convinced that they show no large to move around at all. This is a sock-limited phenomenon, as we would say.

Only last week I stored a single green sock away in a sock drawer for further testing. It turned up three days later on my feet, matched to a grey sock. A female colleague of mine claims that ladies' knickers have the same powers of movement, especially if there is a teenage daughter around, but this is unknown territory to me.

Does he really feel he is pursuing a useful end?

"Most certainly. At least, compared to my colleagues. One of them has devoted his life to comparing different books written about Milton's poetry."

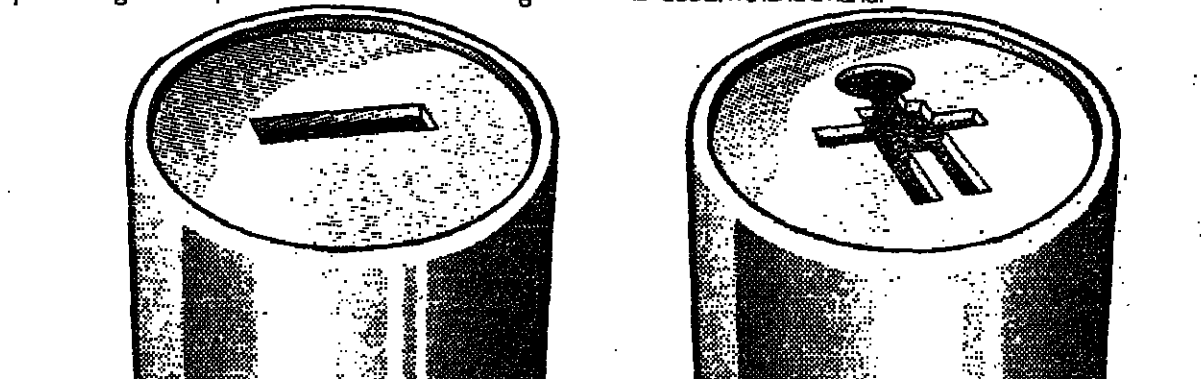
"If he finds any hidden source of energy there, I will eat my hat."

VSO needs both.

Donations and covenants to help our work both here and overseas. And skilled volunteers prepared to give two years of their lives to working with

local communities in developing countries.

Voluntary Service Overseas is a registered charity, but a charity with a difference. We don't give handouts, we lend a hand.



Your money or your life.

By sending volunteers qualified in health, education, agriculture, engineering, commerce or community development to work in developing countries throughout the Third World.

Volunteers whose success is measured not so much by what they achieve themselves as by how much they help others to help themselves.

As a charity, VSO receives a grant from the government on the understanding that we raise a proportion of our overheads ourselves, through urgent appeals like this, and through voluntary support in the UK.

So even if you can't go yourself, you can help to send somebody else. By sending what you can today.

I enclose a donation of £ _____ to help VSO Cheques/POs to Voluntary Service Overseas or Access/Barday card No. _____

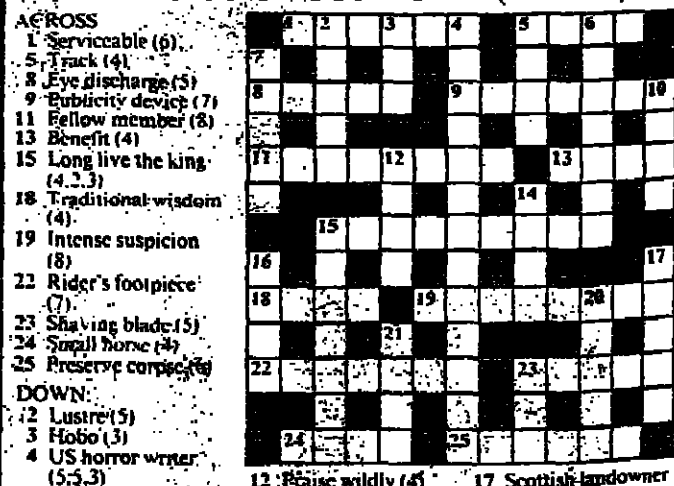
Please send details of the following: ☐ Covenanted donations and their tax advantages ☐ Legacies ☐ VSO membership ☐ Opportunities to work overseas

Name _____ Address _____

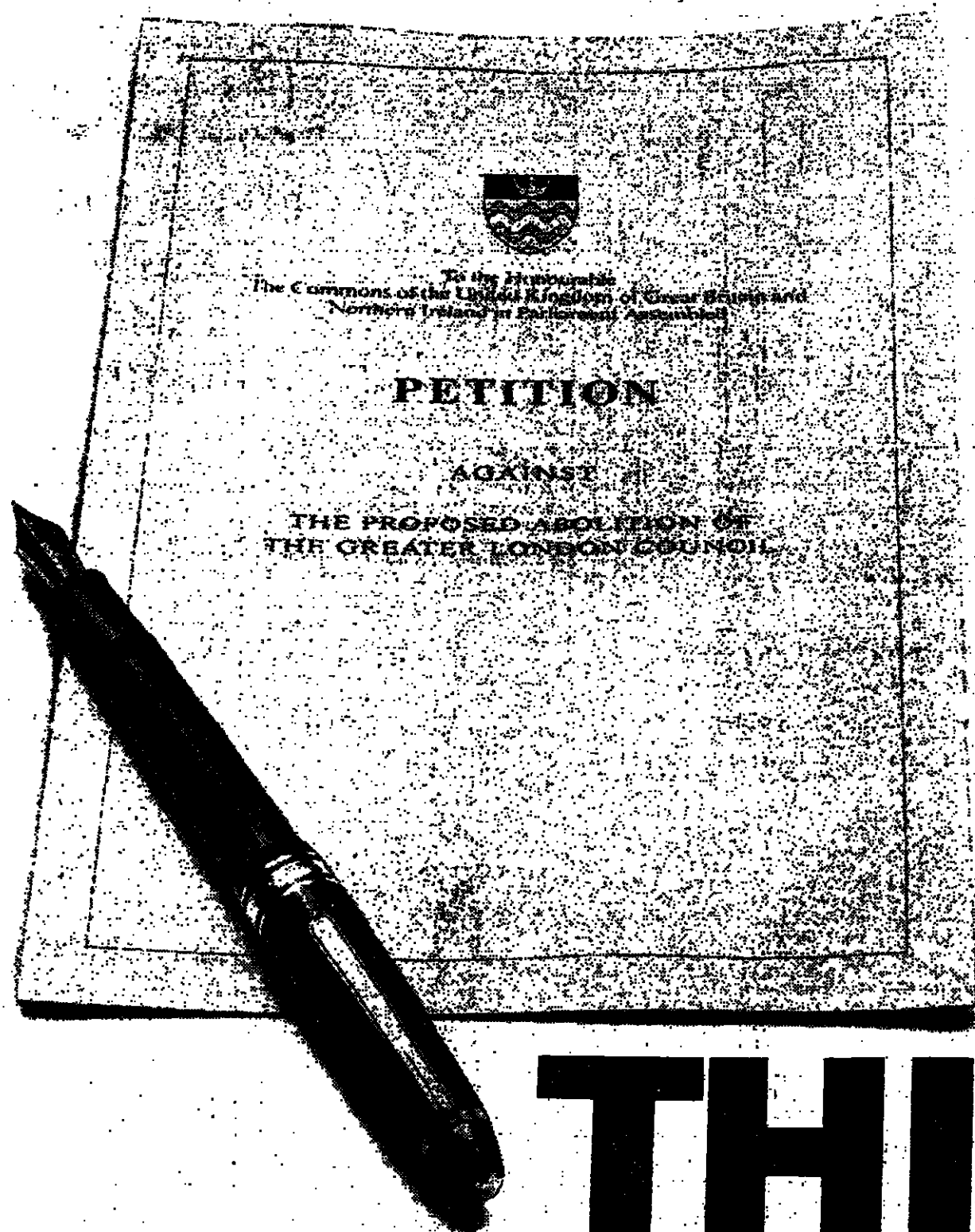
To Voluntary Service Overseas, 9 Belgrave Square, London SW1 1 8PW. Cheque No. 31757



CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 296)



SOLUTION TO No 295:
ACROSS: 1 Equilibrium 9 Avarice 10 Alive 11 SDP 13 Brio 16 Poet
17 Repute 18 Ruse 20 Amid 21 Modern 22 Opp 23 Topi 25 DEF
28 Kneel 29 Lieback 30 Assault
DOWN: 2 Quasi 3 Jib 4 Alder 5 Reap 6 Unhappy 7 Jabberwocky
8 Rear admiral 12 Duties 14 Ore 15 Oppose 19 Shebeen 20 Ant
24 Okapi 25 Blue 26 Fiat 27 Feat



At this moment something totally undemocratic is going on.

Central government is about to put a bill through parliament to cast aside your right to cast a vote.

Next year's London elections will be cancelled without your say so.

At the same time the GLC will be sending people out on the street asking you to sign a petition.

Sign it if you want to retain the right to have a say in London's future.

This government might get your vote but it doesn't have the right to take it.

SAY NO TO NO SAY.

THIS IS
THE LAST TIME
YOU'LL BE
ASKED IF YOU
WANT A
SAY IN WHO
RUNS LONDON.



THE TIMES DIARY

Anger and Rage

As the Government's April 2 deadline to evict the Greenham Common Campers approaches, it can be seen that the so-called peace women have an ally: the Angry Brigade, the anarchist group responsible for a series of bombings between 1968 and 1971. Yesterday, Dr Tom Gibson, a retired GP and a leader of Rage, Ratepayers Against Greenham Encampment, told me his home in Eochinswell, Newbury, had been threatened by the brigade following a series of advertisements in the *Newbury Weekly News* in which he asked locals to register their support. One reader has described them "as the sort of advert Nazis would have used against the Jews and the Ku Klux Klan against their black countryfolk."

In the letter, now in the hands of the police, the Angry Brigade accuse Dr Gibson of supporting the "selfish, decadent power-mongers." "We don't like it. If you carry on putting Rage advertisements in against Greenham women in the *Newbury Weekly News*, you had better watch your back. SCUM. Watch your property. Property is theft." It is signed: "Angry Brigade Resistance Movement. Anarchy. Peace. Freedom."

Top of the Pops

Pope John Paul II is set to become a pop star. Ten poems, written when he was Bishop Karol Wojtyla, have just been set to music, and two of them, "Armaments Factory Worker" and "The Synod", are set to make the Italian charts. Neither, I am told, are likely to set the Rimini disco floors throbbing. The worker in the armaments factory laments that "though what I create is all wrong, the world's evil is my doing," while "The Synod" reflects on a Second Vatican Council that left its participants "poor and naked". Methinks more Leonard Cohen than Rafaela Carrà.

Party program

Kinnock was not batting for Britain when he installed a new spelling checker for his party's computer at the Walworth Road HQ. Being an American machine, it rejected the word "Labour" and had him billed as leader of the Labor party. Programmers are awaiting with relish to punch in the real teaser: Tory.

BARRY FANTONI



"My dad's sort of in the air force, too - he's a flying picket!"

Flat Heals

The Thirties Society are not amused by the designs of Sir Terence Conran. He is about to rip up the elegant curved windows of Heal's - which he has just added to his Habitat empire - and replace them with flat ones. Sir Terence, who started his career as a window dresser at Simpsons behind one of the only other examples of the Thirties windows, is doing it for the money. To sell furniture, the goods have to be seen. Ironically, really, since Sir Terence sponsors the Boiler House project at the Victoria and Albert Museum, which was established to foster the study of design.

Otherwise

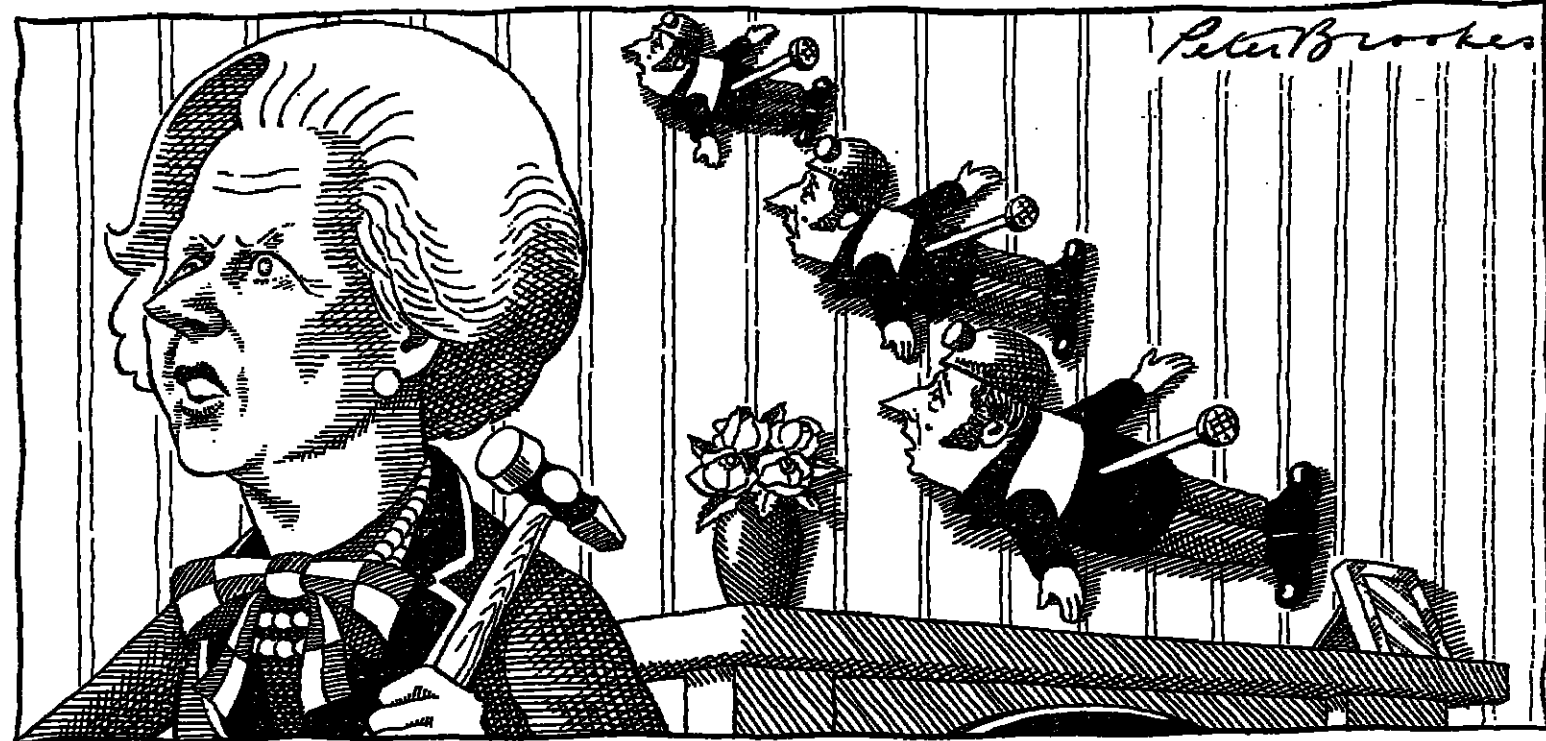
Christopher Bosanquet, a publicity agent drafted in to clean up Dartington Hall's sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll image, kicks off the campaign with "surprising" teasers from staff and pupils in a leaflet entitled "Here We Stand", to be published today. Roger Tilbury, the new joint headmaster, who was sworn by the agency to secrecy over the leaflet's contents, would describe the new regime only as "liberal, but other things as well". I can't imagine.

Tightly corked

In a desperate effort to ensure against injunctions from angered parties, the publishers of Michael Leapman's book *Trachery*, about TV-am, will be sent only to a select band of reviewers who pledge total secrecy. Even with that precaution, George Allen & Unwin are refusing to forward copies until a day or two in advance of publication day, April 5. Yesterday Leapman was persuaded to disclose at least one tit-bit from his cloak-and-dagger operation. Not surprisingly, it concerns the antics of the deposed chairman, Peter Jay, in whose office cupboard brimming with champagne bottles was discovered by the new regime, who thought their suspicions of extravagant living were confirmed. In *Trachery*, however, such allegations are dismissed. The apparently abashed Jay insisted that the bottles remained there intact for a celebratory occasion. But like Jay, even vintages go off.

PHS

From Saltley to the Nottinghamshire coalfield: control of the flying pickets could be a new benchmark in curbing industrial disputes, argues Peter Hennessy



Have the miners been nailed?

As news filtered back to Whitehall yesterday morning from the coalfields of Nottingham, Lancashire and the Midlands indicating that 44 pits, about a quarter of the national total, were working normally, it looked to officials that a 12-year-old demon exorcism.

Since the 1972 coal strike, every civil contingency planner in Whitehall has had the words "Saltley Coke Depot" engraved on their heart. In the second week of February that year, Saltley contained the country's last substantial stockpile of coal. It was closed after a struggle involving at peak moments 800 police and 15,000 massed secondary pickets. The event changed the landscape of industrial relations in Britain for a decade. It became the symbol of naked trade union power used ruthlessly and successfully.

Saltley caused a fundamental rethink in Whitehall. It led to the dismantling of the old Home Office Emergency Committee and the foundation of the Civil Contingencies Unit (CCU) in the Cabinet Office. The CCU remains Whitehall's "doomwatch" organization. It keeps constantly updated files on 16 essential industries and services, assesses their vulnerability to trades disputes and the degree of relief that can be won by policing or by putting in troops as alternative labour.

The CCU is not in the lead on the current coal dispute. With between four and six months' supplies of coal stockpiled at the power stations, plus an equivalent supply of the essential chemicals needed for electricity generation, the issue is not one that could require a state of emergency under the Emergency Powers Act, 1920 in the medium-

term at least. It is being treated in Whitehall as primarily a law and order issue, hence the attention devoted to the National Recording Centre at New Scotland Yard from which the rapid reinforcement, using 7,000 officers, of local police forces in the coalfields is being coordinated.

But the Cabinet Office planners, Mr David Goodall and Brigadier Tony Budd, are important members of the team briefing Mrs Thatcher's ad hoc committees on the coal dispute. And it will be the CCU which will have to revise the intelligence appraisals in its coal file when the dispute is over. Current Cabinet office evaluations are sanguine.

They recognize the importance of legislation enacted by the Thatcher administration banning secondary picketing and a substantial change in the climate of industrial relations since the winter crisis of 1979 that brought down the government of Mr James Callaghan. There are, however, no illusions about the possibility of direct action in defiance of the law, the Government and public opinion causing severe problems in the future. If, for example, the Yorkshire miners, assisted by large numbers of sympathetic trade unionists, decided to besiege the big coal-burning power stations in the Trent Valley and the Doncaster area - the backbone of the national electricity grid - there is very little the chief constables of Nottinghamshire and South Yorkshire could do on the day to make sure supplies were not affected if the workforce could not enter the premises.

So there was relief and quiet satisfaction but no premature

euphoria in Whitehall yesterday. The police action in Nottinghamshire and the Midlands was judged a significant event. But it looked like being a long and expensive haul, and nerves could fray. Parallel to the Birmingham Coke Depot were in the forefront of official minds. The first difference between Saltley in 1972 and Nottinghamshire in 1984 was the quality and robustness of the policing. The late Reginald Maundling, Home Secretary 12 years ago, bore the scars of Saltley but refused to reconsider his view that, in the end, the Heath government was powerless.

He recalled: "During the miners' strike [when] pickets threatened to close the Birmingham Coal Depot, and, in fact, succeeded in doing so, the then chief constable of Birmingham assured me that only over his dead body would they succeed. I felt constrained to ring him the next day after it happened to inquire after his health! I am sure the decision he took was a wise one, because the number of strikers involved was so great, and feelings were running so high, that any attempt by the relatively small body of police who could be assembled to keep the depot open by force could have led to very grave consequences. Some of my colleagues asked me afterwards why I had not sent in troops to support the police, and I remember asking them one simple question: 'If they had been sent in, should they have gone in with their rifles loaded or unloaded?'"

The ability of police forces since the riots of 1981 to assist each other very swiftly with well-equipped and trained officers has proved crucial to

the shift in the balance of power in outbreaks of violent, or potentially violent industrial disorder of which yesterday's events provide the most convincing evidence to date. It is most unlikely that Mr Leon Brittan's memoirs will contain any passage comparable to Mr Maundling's.

But ministers can be notoriously wobbly on such matters, oscillating between premature euphoria and unjustified despair. There is still a need for confidence-building measures to be seen to be effective. The sharp end of the picket lines the Government must consolidate its advantage. It could all unravel very rapidly if the flying pickets regain the initiative and official resolve crumbles.

There is no sign of that at the moment. The chief constables are determined to rid themselves of the stigma of Saltley. Mr Peter Joslin, Chief Constable of Warwickshire, said on Sunday: "We are no pushover. Enough is enough." The impression left at the Scotland Yard press conference was that the police have the men and the nationally coordinated tactics too.

Mr Scargill has always seen such confrontations as a war, "a class war" in which you "attack the vulnerable points", the power stations and coal depots. As chairman of the Barnsley Area Strike Committee of the NUM in 1972, he invented the new weapon of the massed flying secondary picket. It could be that the authorities have, at last, developed an effective defence in depth. If they have, March 19, 1984, will rank with February 10, 1972, the day Saltley was closed, as a benchmark in the history of industrial relations.

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

The bottomless pit at the end of the rainbow

(Particularly, I may say, since the lady seems to have an exceptionally fine one; she has just said that she feels no resentment for the father of her child, that although he is not himself married "it would not be right to name him", and that she will not be asking him for money.) But what interests me, and provides my real theme, is not the lady's original action, nor her present misfortunes, but the bit in between.

Why shouldn't the lady expect a crock of gold

The immediate consequence of her action was her launching, on a sea of *reclame*, into a many-sided new life (she had been, until the fateful day, an assistant in a bookshop). She made a pop record; she opened a boutique; offers of modelling engagements fell thick and fast on her door.

Note carefully the constituent elements of her new triple career, its nature almost incredibly representative of the froth and bubble that this age mistakes for substance. The characteristic sound of our time and place is the howling and gibbering of pop singers; its characteristic product is the shoddy of the Kings Road and Carnaby Street; its characteristic activity is posing, with expressionless faces, for the cameras of advertising photographers. The innocent young lady at Twickenham had noticed, as had the rest of us, these phenomena, and had noticed, again like others, that many of those engaged in such trades had become successful and rich - some of them, indeed, rich almost beyond imagining. Why should she not believe the agents and promoters, the spivs and *turnmers*, who told her that she was (less gifted than the successful ones which was probably true), and could therefore become no less rich?

You can conjure it as an irregular verb: I am a pop-singer, you own a boutique, she models, we are successful and rich. Why indeed should not the Lady of Twickenham believe that there is a crock of gold at the end of the rainbow, when in our society a bishop scurries across the country to sit at the feet of Mr Mick Jagger and nod sagely at the pearls of wisdom that fall from his ample lips?

"Everyone seems to think," she says in recounting her disillusion-

ment, "that because I'm famous I must be rich." That ought to be carved on the twentieth century's tombstone, not because the lady has so painfully spotted the fallacy, but because she has so artlessly, yet so truly, defined what today is fame. It is to make records so undemanding of emotion, thought or music that they will get into the "charts"; it is to sell "designer jeans" and "costume jewellery" (if there is any more room on the tombstone those phrases ought to be added); it is to narrow the eyes and point one hip and find the resultant picture amid the glossy trash of the latest gaudy property magazine; for that matter, it is to find the proprietor of the latest giveaway property magazine appointed Rector of the Royal College of Art.

As it chanced, the lady in this case failed to become rich. The boutique did not find favour, the record did not sell millions of copies, the modelling offers did not continue; she now, presumably, knows what song the sirens sang. But it might so easily have been otherwise. In our era, some have become millionaires by putting rubbishy records on gramophones; others have made even greater fortunes by gyrating to the records in "discotheques"; attractive young women have ensured themselves a place in the history books, or at any rate Madame Tussaud's, by looking half-dart for hours on end in a photographic studio. Who will dare say that the young lady of Twickenham was barred from such glories by lack of talent?

We live in a world composed not only of froth

And where was the lesson taught that was thus dearly learnt? Who told the disc jockeys and the boutique-owners and the gossip columnists and the disco-dancers and the models that at the end of the rainbow there was gold to be got for the stooping? Why, those who, in the older arts, cottoned on much earlier to the fact that imagination, hard work and the stuff of creation were no longer necessary for success.

Do you curl your lip at those who seek fame and fortune through the dubious portals of publicity? Then be prepared to encompass a good deal more in your curl.

For we live in a world that is not exclusively composed of froth; there is the sour lees beneath it to be considered. You can pile bricks for £4,000 a pile if you are in favour at the Tate Gallery; if you tear up the pages of an Act of Parliament and stick them on a wall you may find yourself commended by Mr Richard Cork; if you cover 34 square feet of canvas with rubbish and sell it for £10,000, as Mr Roy Lichtenstein will hang in the Royal Academy, and if you cover 500 square feet with even greater rubbish Mr Christo Joachimides will hang it in the very next room. Meanwhile, if you are a composer, or want to be thought one, you may write "works in which the voice has no fixed relation to the score", "works whose performance is indeterminate" and "works based on imperfections in the manuscript paper", and Herr H. H. Stuckenschmidt will write an admiring book about you. Alternatively, you can write poetry by cutting words out of newspapers and pasting them together at random; the editors of literary magazines will be eager to publish the results and will squeal like stuck pigs if the Arts Council will not pay them to do so.

It seems hard on the young lady at the rugby match, who did nothing more wicked than believe what she had been told about the value of publicity, that she should now be in want while others, no more talented than she, should have waxed rich as accidentally as she has now waxed poor. Their fame, of course, will last, by history's reckoning, only an instant longer than hers, and she did, after all, cheer us all up. Which is more than most of them can say: would the Sunday papers bother to print pictures of Stockhausen's chest, or Carl Andre's, or Sano Wilson's?

Good luck, say I, to the lady with the torso that did provide pictures, who seems to be a brave lass as well as a good-hearted one; "I may be down", she says, "but I'm not out." I wonder, however, whether she feels that she might have done better to stay at her job in the bookshop and keep all her clothes on. She says herself that she did not earn more than £8,000 from first to last after her moment of fame, and is now £7,000 in debt. But if she were still behind the counter selling the works of Tolstoy, Sophocles and Levin, I would have said that she would have made some £5,400. And what is more, had she remained in the bookshop she might, when trade was slack, have taken down the appropriate volume of Shakespeare and read these words by way of warning:

All that glitters is not gold:
Often have you heard that told:
Many a man his life hath sold
But my outside to behold:
Gilded tombs do worms infold.
Had you been as wise as bold,
Young in limbs, in judgment old,
Your answer had not been
inscull'd;
Fare you well; your suit is cold.

© Times Newspapers Limited, 1984

Robin Cook

When the banker should say Non

Today as the premiers of Europe descend from their summit at Brussels, we may at least learn just what propositions have been made to Britain behind closed doors as part of the French shuttle diplomacy of the past couple of months.

For those of us waiting in the ante-room observing the arrivals and departures of European dignitaries, it hitherto has been difficult to fit together the odd fragments that have escaped from the hushed voices of negotiation. Certainly British ministers have not assisted rational speculation by alternately blowing hot and cold. This week the press is heavy with reports bearing the unmistakable fingerprints of lobby briefings, faithfully rebutting the message that ministers are gloomy about the prospect of agreement. Yet last week in the Commons Sir Geoffrey Howe appeared if not ebullient - which would hardly suit his style - at any rate surprisingly self-satisfied at progress to date.

It is easy to understand the reason why ministers swimmer between optimism and pessimism. Mrs Thatcher has carved her reputation in the adamant stone of resolution, determination and conviction, and all the signs suggest that she is now strongly tempted to take advantage of confrontation in the Common Market to perform a display ritual of those qualities, nicely timed to boost ratings for the coming Euro elections. On the other hand both she and Sir Geoffrey Howe have been in constant negotiation in pursuit of a European deal for almost a year since the Stuttgart summit.

This in turn places an obligation on them to show they have achieved something for all this diplomatic effort, while inability to reach agreement would confirm they have failed to shift our continental partners from their resolute approach. If the stakes were not so high it would be quite entertaining to observe our senior ministers seeking to reconcile the paradox that they have succeeded in defending British interests through failing over three successive summits to obtain a deal that secures British interests.

Moreover, if ever there was an opportunity for a settlement favourable to Britain it is now. Without a settlement, the Common Market will be bankrupt by the autumn. The looming financial debacle was underlined by President Thorne when he confirmed that by the end of March the Community will have spent 40 per cent of its current budget, only 25 per cent of the way through the year.

As Mrs Thatcher is wont to remind us, Britain bankrolls the

Community and this is surely the moment when any competent banker could secure the upper hand in negotiations. Instead, we actually appear further away than at Athens from securing British objectives.

One objective was reform of the CAP. Yet as the months have passed, the Government's proposals instead of gaining in clarity have become even more vacuous. Reform itself has disappeared from the vocabulary of negotiation and been replaced by the longer but more limited phrase "effective control of expenditure".

Yet the recent agriculture settlement plainly does not meet even this more modest objective. Its most striking feature is that at a time when it is agreed on all sides that the Community is about to run out of money, the agricultural ministers have come up with a package that will add £500m to the budget proposed by the Commission. It is alarming to speculate what increase in expenditure they might have been prepared to contemplate had more resources been put in the kitty. Moreover the mechanism for damping the milk lake has the perverse result that Britain, which still has a surplus of demand over supply for milk, is obliged to cut production proportionately by twice as much as France, which is the Community's largest dairy producer but faces the smallest cut.

It does become easier to understand why Mrs Thatcher may listen to voices suggesting that it may be better at Brussels to utter the defiant "Non", than to return to defend such unhappy agreements against the probing of parliamentary debate and public disapproval. Moreover, there is one scenario in which it is possible to have the best of both worlds. Europe goes to the polls from June 14 to 17. Its premiers have already arranged their next summit for June 18. It is difficult to resist the obvious inference from such delicacy of timing that any particular detail which may prove too painful for domestic public opinion will be postponed until the day after the voting.

In the meantime we know of at least one issue that has been resolved in the current round of negotiations. Greenland has contrived its exit from the Community with a deal that secures £211 a year for 10 years for every inhabitant of Greenland. It is an attractive deal that provokes pause for thought. Perhaps we would have been better to turn the British negotiation brief over to the wily diplomatic corps of Greenland.

The author is Labour MP for Livingston.

Roger Scruton

A toast to old wine - and old manners

Many explanations could be offered for the decline in serious sherry drinking; perhaps the most obvious is the decline of serious sherry. Less obvious perhaps, but no less important, has been the long-term effect of King Edward VII's sale, in 1901, of 60,000 bottles of vintage sherry, judged "surplus to royal requirements" - a gesture which caused the following comment from Queen:

The business capacity of His Majesty has shown itself by ordering that sale, while the memory of his august mother is most vivid among us; for there is no doubt that, allowing for a certain quantity of the liquor going to the dealers, the greater part of it will find its way to the cellars of the *vieux* and *nouveaux riches*, who will offer it to their guests as a kind of historic beverage... the truth is that sherry has had its day even among connoisseurs of wine, and even among better class women... albeit that few of the latter could have given an adequate, still less a gastronomical, reason for preferring it to the French dry wines... such as *Bourgeois Monarch* or *Côtes du Rhône blanc*.

One assumes that the last-named wine was not the bland potion currently sold under that label, but white Hermitage, which may indeed sometimes bear comparison with the greatest dry white wine of all.

But where would one now find a bottle of serious sherry? Or, for that matter, a bottle of the best white Hermitage? The answer is discreetly contained in the records of the royal auction. A certain Mr Berry, having quietly bid throughout the proceedings, carried home in triumph, at a price too appalling to disclose, the last nine dozen bottles. Part of the royal surplus thus found a temporary home in the cellars of a wine merchant who has remained to this day one of the few reliable purveyors of the drink which the royal liver could no longer tolerate.

I hesitate to sing the praises of Berry Bros and Rudd Ltd. Those who know the discreet shop in St James's Street, London SW1, will be appalled at the sacrifice involved in publicizing its existence. Those who do not know it are probably suffering from some moral deficiency - perhaps even from a lack of interest in wine - which must surely lead to a double charge of sacrilege against the writer who would share such precious information with infidels. However, the example set by Berry's is so important that I hope to be excused if not for my methods, at least for their meaning. For Berry's is one of the few remaining businesses conducted entirely according to a moral idea, in which personal association and respect for the merchandise take precedence over anything that might be called a "market force".

The family concern, at present conducted by a Mr Berry of the seventh generation and by the current Mr Rudd, presides over one of the most remarkable of London's

archives, recording the weights of distinguished customers who have sat upon the black coffee scales in the front of the shop. This record of the tangible presence of famous men - of their momentary translation into an equivalent in groceries - has a strangely soothing influence. Peer and commoner, genius and lunatic, judge and criminal: all are reduced to a single measure, equalized at last, in their final transition from quality to quantity. Such is the genial influence of trade.

Like any institution dedicated to the equality of its members, Berry's presents obstacles to the uninitiated. Nothing stands in the window; no advertisement beckons to the passer-by or flatters his vanity. Nor, indeed, does the shop contain anything that could conceivably be bought or sold - no wine, no cigars, no merchandise of any description; only the old black scales, a few Windsor chairs, some antique desks, and a collection of dignified empties set upon mahogany shelves along the wall. It has the feel of a London club: the same deeply masculine sense that a comfortable arrangement, once discovered, should never be changed, and certainly not for the convenience of strangers.

In the courtesy of the staff can be discerned an equal refusal to yield to terms that have not been approved by the existing members. On one occasion, when the assistant had just fetched my order from the cellar, a bluff character barged through the door, and loudly declared his interest in acquiring large quantities of wine for investment. Without shifting his attention from the single bottle of "Good Ordinary Claret" that I had purchased on account, the assistant explained stiffly that the firm did not sell for investment purposes and besides had not the habit of dealing in the quantities required.

Once admitted, however, the customer is treated with exemplary concern, by a firm that manages to conduct its business as though totally indifferent to profit and loss. Its respect for the customer is matched by an equal respect for the quality of what is sold. Berry's continues to bottle many of its wines, and many among major importers retains its own office in Bordeaux. Its modest labels have remained unpolished by classifications, and resistant to the false expertise of the speculator. The resulting list contains more true bargains than any cut-price chain store, and is chosen with a love for the matter of trade that equals the firm's love for its form.

From time immemorial Berry's has stocked a most extraordinary white Hermitage, and it is with this vintage that I now drink a toast to the old habits of commerce, to which, properly guarded, may still resist the market forces which elsewhere have eroded them.



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

TIME FOR A BALLOT

As a matter of industrial diplomacy, the Coal Board's decision yesterday to postpone its case against the Yorkshire region of the miners' union has obvious advantages. If the police prove able effectively to inhibit illegal picketing at the gates of mines whose men want to go to work, why should the board risk the odium of seeking the same end through the courts? If the union's leaders do eventually allow its members the national ballot which is now so manifestly necessary, to heal the internal rifts that their leadership has opened up, the board would serve its own interests best by staying on the sidelines. The possible spectacle of an enforced seizure of union funds to meet claims awarded under the Government's Employment Acts might be the very thing needed to create that embattled spirit in the union which Mr Scargill's strategy has so far failed to evoke.

But it is generally better to deal with large scale organized threats to public order through the courts rather than by mass movements of police. The chief constables in the areas concerned have been entirely right to move energetically to ensure that people who want to go to work are not prevented from doing so by coercion - and to cooperate with their colleagues to ensure

that they have the resources to do so. The precedents of Warrington, Grunwick and the 1972 miners' strike, and also the rhetoric of the leaders in the present dispute, amply justified taking precautions on the largest scale. Prompt action seems at this stage to have forestalled further major clashes, and perhaps further casualties. But there is less risk of injury, and less public expense, if these matters are determined in the courts and not on the streets: the law should, and now does, provide means of achieving this.

The law of contempt exists to serve the public interest as well as that of aggrieved parties. The public interest requires that defiance of the law should not be seen to succeed. In exercising an aggrieved party's right to withdraw, the Coal Board can justify itself with the argument - perhaps premature - that the police have already ensured that the defiance will fail. But at the same time, a precedent has been set for union leaders to claim - as Mr Scargill has already claimed - that the law of contempt is an empty threat and that employers will generally be too cautious, or too intimidated, to exercise their new rights. The defiance and disorder that have already occurred will go unpunished, however.

The present dispute is at least as much about politics as about coal. The argument within the union for a national strike is wholly perverse and self-defeating except as an expression of the crude doctrine: "Don't mess with us!", and an attempt to weld the miners again into the political force they were in 1974. Even if that attempt succeeded for a time, it could only be at the expense of the union's long-term cohesion and the well-being of the industry. The many marginal pits in Britain can have no secure future while the industry is burdened by the small number of heavy loss-makers which should have closed years ago. The true interests of miners in the latter are best served by calling for industrial investment in the areas where they are often the main source of employment - not by calling on the majority to sacrifice their interests so as to postpone briefly the inevitable closure for those pits which cannot be saved.

The internal conflicts that have been made acute by the attempt to lure the union unawares into a national stoppage can now only be resolved by a national ballot. There is no other way for the union to recover its self-respect, and for the industry to put a lengthy, futile and irrelevant episode behind it.

THE POLITICS OF CRIME

Justified satisfaction has been expressed in both Dublin and Belfast at the capture of Dominic McGlinchey in county Clare and his prompt extradition to Northern Ireland under an order confirmed by the supreme court in Dublin in December 1982.

Refusal by Irish courts to extradite on a warrant charging a serious crime associated with republican violence, and the refusal of Irish governments to amend the statute on which the courts have based themselves, have caused more resentment among Ulster Unionists against the state to the south of them than any other single cause of complaint. Compared to that, the Republic's laws about contraception, divorce, abortion, and other questions they have been agonizing over with half an eye on the North, are matters of indifference to Unionists.

Extradition is something within Dublin's gift that really would soften Northern attitudes; since non-extradition for these blatant crimes confirms the impression that the Republic is a sanctuary from which terrorist attacks are launched upon Northern Ireland, and colours the belief that, for all the evidence to the contrary, including the provisions for extra-territorial jurisdiction, somewhere deep in the official consciousness of the Republic these crimes are condoned.

The position of Irish governments all along has been that extradition is a matter for the courts, that the law the courts interpret and enforce cannot be rescinded without an amendment to the constitution, that any such proposal to amend the

constitution would be hazardous, and that alternative remedies are available in the form of reciprocal extra-territorial jurisdiction or better still an all-Ireland court. About that it can be said that extra-territorial jurisdiction is seen to be of far less efficacy than extradition, that an all-Ireland court is a gift borne by Greeks, and that the constitutional bar is a figment erected upon a dubious construction of article 29 of the Irish constitution (specially dubious in the Irish and primary version of the document) and an obsolete understanding of the requirements of international law.

However that may be, no Irish government has yet felt sure enough of its political ground to act directly on this source of bad blood between the two parts of Ireland. The Irish supreme court, to its great credit, has been prepared to move by way of judicial development. Apart from any internal promptings, the court had the example of other jurisdictions, notably the United States where, on a plea of asylum on the ground that the offence is political, the courts have been looking harder at the nature of the offence as well as the motive behind it. There is also the example of the European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism, which radically modifies international law.

In its judgment in the McGlinchey case in 1982 the Chief Justice paved the way for judicial development capable almost of revolution. It would no longer be enough, he held, that there should exist the conditions of insurrection or organized violent conflict and that the

person accused claimed to have been acting in furtherance of a political objective. Earlier judicial authority had been rendered obsolete in many respects by the fact that modern terrorist violence "is often the antithesis of what could reasonably be regarded as political". The question to be asked in each case was whether the particular circumstances showed that the person charged was at the relevant time engaged in "what reasonable, civilized people would regard as political activity".

Everything now depends on how far the supreme court follows its own lead. More than one case awaits appeal, including the alleged murder in county Armagh of Sir Norman Strong, an old man of 84 who had once been speaker of the Northern Ireland parliament. The high court applied the McGlinchey judgment to place that crime outside the category of political offences. A stiffer test will come when a warrant charging murder or attempted murder of an off-duty UDR man or an on-duty policeman comes before the court in Dublin.

The return of Mr McGlinchey is a bonus for intra-Irish relations and a cherry-on-a-stick to precede the dish about to be served up by the Dublin Forum. But the courts' case-by-case reclassification of offences is an indirect and uncertain way of doing what ought to be done, when all the time it is open to Dr Fitzgerald's government to subscribe to the European convention on terrorism in full and alter the municipal law of Ireland accordingly.

him, being seen by many southerners as a betrayal of the Addis Ababa agreement.

Grasping at the one identifiable constituency left to him - the Muslim Brotherhood - he announced last autumn the full implementation of Islamic law, which turned out to mean the construction of a macabre amphitheatre for the public amputation of thieves' hands. This further alienated the south - even though there seems to be no question of applying it to non-Muslims - and also appalled many decent Muslims, for whom it was a travesty of Islam especially when applied by a government with no credentials either of popular choice or of social justice. Mr Sadiq al-Mahdi, who icily pointed this out, was promptly clapped in gaol, further emphasizing the President's isolation; and now guerrilla warfare in the south has put an end to the Chevron oil company's explorations, and with them virtually all hope of economic development.

Mr Nimeiri is a great survivor. But his survival in itself is no longer bringing any tangible benefits to his country, which on the contrary is falling apart. The only hope of a solution now must lie in a broad-based administration giving the various political, religious and social forces in the country a genuine say in its future. Mr Nimeiri could still form such an administration, if he were willing to hand over real power to it. Otherwise Colonel Gaddafi will continue to find Sudanese disaffection to exploit.

THE SAD STORY IN SUDAN

For the fourth time in three years, and the third in the last thirteen months, American AWACS (Airborne Warning and Control Systems) aircraft have been sent to north-east Africa to help protect Sudan against threats from Libya. Both Egypt and Sudan have accused Libya of carrying out the air raid on Omdurman in which, according to the Sudanese government, five people were killed. American intelligence information, leaked to the *New York Times*, apparently confirms this.

A different version was given in London yesterday by Mr Joseph Oduho, the political leader of the Sudan Peoples' Liberation Movement which is now fighting the Nimeiri regime in southern Sudan. According to him the raid was carried out by a Sudanese air force Mig 15 flying from El Obeid in the west of the country in order to manufacture an "external threat" which would justify bringing Egyptian troops into Sudan to bolster the regime, under the 1976 defence treaty between the two countries.

That seems a far-fetched story, and one hopes American intelligence has more to go on than President Nimeiri's say-so. There is, alas, nothing inherently improbable about Colonel Gaddafi sending aircraft to bomb his neighbours.

Colonel Gaddafi exists, and the rest of the world is obliged to take him seriously. It is better to be safe than sorry, and the dispatch of AWACS aircraft can hardly do any harm. But if he did not exist President Nimeiri would be tempted to invent him. As the political situation in

Sudan has gone from bad to worse over the last few years, it had been convenient to have an external scapegoat to blame, and an external bogeyman to frighten the West (mainly the United States) into providing military and economic aid.

It is a sad story because for a time in the early and middle seventies Mr Nimeiri looked one of the more sensible and successful rulers in the Middle East. He had managed by the skin of his teeth (and, ironically, with a little help from Colonel Gaddafi) to outwit the communists who helped him into power, and above all, by the Addis Ababa agreement of 1972, he had ended the seventeen-year civil war between north and south. Assured of Arab solidarity, Sudan hoped to benefit from the oil boom by becoming "the breadbasket of the Arab world", and later oil was discovered in large quantities in southern Sudan itself.

But, largely through economic mismanagement, the hoped-for agricultural leap forward has not been realised, while on the political front neither the creation of the Sudanese Socialist Union (modelled on Nasser's single party in Egypt) nor the successive reconciliations with various opposition groups have altered the reality of one-man rule. Increasingly it has seemed that the sheer scale of his country's problems (it is the largest in Africa) was getting beyond him. Disaffection revived in the south, and his attempt to contain it last year by dividing the area into three provinces rebounded against

Divided views on wages councils

From Mr Chris Pond and Ms Emma MacLennan

Sir, Your article of March 6 ("Wages councils" split both employers and unions) purports to describe the mixed feelings aroused by the wages councils among both employers and trade unions.

Trade union opinion, it is true, has not always been wholeheartedly in favour of the wages councils, and for a period in the late 1960s and the early 1970s unions pressed for the abolition of wages councils in some industries. Over that period a number of wages councils were indeed abolished and the experience of trade unions in those industries is partly responsible for their change of heart more recently.

In industries as diverse as paper boxmaking, stamped and pressed metals and industrial catering the abolition of wages councils failed to achieve any improvements in the level of union organisation. The wage levels of the lowest paid suffered further reductions and the well organised were no better off.

For these reasons response to a TUC discussion document last year found unanimous support among trade unions for the retention and improvement of the wages council system.

As might be expected, opinion among employers is not uniform. The "modest wages" people might be prepared to accept in the absence of minimum wage protection, edged on by crushing levels of unemployment, are never made explicit. But as the current statutory minimum entitlement of an adult shop assistant is £67 gross for a 40-hour week (or less than half of average adult wages), the wages some employers would like to be paying must be extremely modest.

The ability to pay even lower wages, however, would not add to employment or industrial efficiency. The experience of abolishing wages councils in the past has shown this to be a vain hope as evidenced by research commissioned by the Department of Employment and carried out by the Department of Applied Economics at Cambridge.

For these and other reasons the majority of employers' organisations covered by the wages councils are in favour of their retention (*Industrial Relations Review and Report* 290, February 22, 1983, p.9). Moreover, the existence of minimum wages in labour-intensive, highly competitive industries prevents the situation where, in the words of Winston Churchill, "the good employer is undercut by the bad and the bad employer is undercut by the worst".

Thus, if the Government goes ahead with its threats of abolition, the interests of no one but the least efficient "cowboy" employer will be served. Yours faithfully, CHRIS POND, Director, EMMA MACLENNAN, Deputy Director, Low Pay Unit, 9 Poland Street, W1, March 8.

Rodent remedies

From Mr James Essinger

Sir, The President of the British Pest Control Association (March 12) recommends the use of even nastier poisons to combat super-rats, but he appears to have overlooked ultrasonic pest-repellent devices.

These emit sound at a frequency audible to pests, rats and mice, but inaudible to humans, dogs and cats. They thus represent a clean solution to a potentially highly unpleasant problem.

Final testing by the British Standards Institution is awaited, although there have been extensive tests in New Zealand, Australia and the USA and these devices represent the latest pest control.

Why they have not been utilized before is a curious matter, since it has been known for ages that televisions, which under certain circumstances emit ultrasonic sound, often get rid of rats, both super and economy-sized.

Yours faithfully, JAMES ESSINGER, 32 Lealand Road, South Tottenham, N15, March 13.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Steps towards unified defence staff

From Admiral of the Fleet Lord Lewin

Sir, I was glad to see your leading article (March 16) supporting Mr Michael Heseltine's proposals to strengthen the Central Staff of the Ministry of Defence. These are indeed a further stage in the evolution of the unified ministry first achieved by Lord Mountbatten in 1964.

I think, however, that you underestimate the significance of the step taken in 1981 when Mr John Nott endorsed and the Prime Minister approved my proposals for a change in the responsibilities of the Chief of the Defence Staff.

Until that time the CDS was responsible, as Chairman of the Chiefs of Staff Committee, for presenting the collective views of himself and his colleagues. Only if there was disagreement could he represent his own views and, with pressure always to seek a consensus, all too often this resulted in delay and compromise.

As the years passed, the strength of the military voice diminished compared with other sections of the ministry giving advice to ministers. The Central Defence Staff, composed of officers drawn from all three Services, was accountable to the CDS only in his position as Chairman of the Chiefs of Staff Committee, and inevitably tended to be constrained to the melding and moulding of the views of the strong Army, Navy and Air staffs rather than evolving objective defence policies and giving independent advice to the CDS.

The changes that I proposed and which were approved and implemented made the CDS the principal military adviser to the Government in his own right, not as chairman of the committee.

The Chiefs of Staff Committee became the forum in which the CDS sought the advice of his colleagues, but no longer had a collective responsibility. The Central Defence Staff thus became accountable

directly to the CDS and at last he had an independent staff of his own.

The appointment of a deputy CDS in 1982 was not a new post, but a broadening of the responsibilities of the existing CDS for operational requirements to encompass the whole field of plans, policy and programmes, and part of a general tidying up of the organisation of the central staff.

I agree with your leader writer that the CDS does need a proper "Chief of Staff" to coordinate the whole span of central defence responsibility and with the authority to act for the CDS when he is unavoidably absent.

It seems that among the changes that Mr Heseltine now proposes is a further strengthening of the central staff answerable to the CDS at the expense of the Naval, General and Air staffs. This is logical, but the single Service Chiefs of Staff must, of course, be left with adequate staffs of their own to fulfil their responsibilities as the professional heads of their Services and to enable them to contribute considered advice to the CDS on matters of strategy and defence policy.

I particularly welcome the proposal for a greater integration of Servicemen and civilians on the general staff. This was a cardinal feature of Lord Mountbatten's proposals but was not followed through, except in the case of the Defence Intelligence Services, which are a model of tri-Service and civilian integration serving defence needs.

Within months of the implementation of the changes in 1981 we were faced with the crisis in the South Atlantic, giving the new arrangements a searching test in the fields of crisis management and direction of operations. I think it is acknowledged that the system proved its effectiveness.

Yours sincerely, LEWIN, House of Lords, March 16.

VAT distortions in building

From Lord Rosebery

Sir, Although there is some superficial logic in charging VAT on building improvements, because it avoids having to differentiate between repairs and improvements, there are two fundamental objections to it, in addition to the effect the alteration will have on the building industry.

The first is that it will encourage demolition and rebuilding as opposed to improving existing buildings, thus making it even more difficult for owners of listed buildings and encouraging the demolition of other good buildings.

The second is that it increases the fiscal distortion between let business and owner-occupied business premises. The owner-occupier, whether he is a farmer, industrialist or other business occupier, is in a position to recover the VAT he incurs on maintenance, while the landlord of such property cannot recover it.

It is ridiculous of the Chancellor to give as one reason for cutting the investment income surcharge that it will level agricultural landlords on a more even footing and at the same time extend this VAT anomaly to building improvements.

Why should an extra building in a complex be treated differently to the extension of an existing building? Can a new building be linked to an existing one? Can a link be made later? The anomalies are endless.

Yours faithfully, ROSEBERY, Dalmeny House, South Queensferry, West Lothian, March 16.

From Mr George Ferguson

Sir, By making building alterations liable for VAT the Chancellor has inflicted a cruel blow to the plans and hopes of a new lease of life for redundant churches and other buildings which have lost their original use, but remain as vital elements of our townscape, landscape and heritage.

The standard rating of building repairs has already militated against our existing building stock, and historic buildings in particular, but to add to this the standard rating of a change of use of a church to a concert hall or community centre, or from a derelict terrace of Georgian houses to flats for fair rent, or even the improvement of a young couple's new home is a grave error. It will have the inevitable effect of encouraging illicit conversions with the black economy.

It appears, sadly, that the Chancellor has paid more attention to the convenience of the Customs and Excise, who have been squealing at recent changes in the definition of the term "alteration", than to those of us with the difficult task of trying

to maintain and improve the surroundings in which we live and work.

We can only hope that back-benchers will appreciate the iniquity of this particular measure and will enable the reversal of this decision, or at the very least give exemption for listed buildings and charities from VAT on building alteration and repair.

Yours faithfully, GEORGE FERGUSON, Ferguson Mann Architects, Royal Colonnade, 18 Great George Street, Bristol, Avon, March 15.

From Mrs Hilda Day

Sir, I have just read with amazement the letter of Jill Goulding in today's *Times* (March 16). She states that many children have only one hot meal each day, namely takeaway food. It has always been the responsibility of the parent to see their children are properly fed.

When I went to school in the hungry thirties, and I come from a large family, I don't ever remember coming home from school without a hot meal waiting. In the case of parents who go out to work, it is a simple matter to prepare a meal the previous evening.

Takeaway food is not cheap. Fish and chips in this area cost about £1.20 per portion. For the price of two such meals I could produce a cooked meal for four people.

In case anyone thinks I was born with the proverbial silver spoon, I am a very old-aged pensioner, living alone.

Yours faithfully, HILDA DAY, 26 Cecil Crescent, Hatfield, Hertfordshire, March 16.

From Mr Donald Cunningham

Sir, It seems to be taken for granted by many people that the Budget proposals are a fait accompli. I am particularly alarmed at the life assurance companies' placid acceptance of the proposed abolition of life assurance relief. They should be vehemently opposing the Chancellor's proposals.

To many millions of medium and low-income earners endowment and whole-life assurance policies are the only practical means of long-term savings. To abolish a fiscal concession of well over 100 years' standing is a retrograde step which I never thought to see proposed by a Conservative Chancellor.

Yours truly, D. CUNNINGHAM, 11 Monckton Road, Borough Green, Kent, March 16.

Smallholdings ladder

From Mr Antony Palmer

Sir, It saddens me that Councillor Coutts (March 6) appears to have such scant regard for the value of the small family farm as typified by the county council smallholding which, no less than wildlife, seems to be an endangered species. One can see only too well the results of councils selling part or all of their estates in that viable family-worked enterprises have disappeared for good, to be swallowed up by already large adjacent farms.

The sale of these estates by apparently shortsighted local politicians could be said to constitute a breach of faith, both with the tenants and the former council members who had the vision and foresight to build up these estates by judicious purchase.

Their intent was that the small family farm should be an important part of the living countryside and not merely a part of a megafarm system of cereal mono-culture.

Some county councils as well as

the Government, it seems, have an odd two-faced attitude to the countryside. One of their functions is to maintain and promote employment within the county and yet the sale of these estates is often reducing employment in the very rural areas where it is needed.

Equally, the cost per worker of establishing factory units by councils in rural areas to counter unemployment could exceed the cost of providing the family farms which are busily being sold off.

I do not dispute Councillor Coutts's contention that the farming ladder is virtually non-existent but, as a member of the Small Farmers' Association, I feel that such a ladder is not necessarily essential if we can eliminate the psychological barrier to prosperity from small farms and the pompous assumption that small farms are mere stepping stones to something bigger and better.

Yours faithfully, ANTONY PALMER, 23 Pentlands Court, Cambridge, March 10.

Purbeck claim on oil wealth

From the Reverend Canon W. D. O'Hanlon

Sir, The argument in the thoughtful letter from Mr Essex (March 16) applies to the Isle of Purbeck, where no local benefit accrues from the rich oilfield shortly to be transferred from British Gas into private hands for a sum approaching £400m.

A trickle of mineral wealth has flowed from Purbeck since Iron Age times, first from the clay for pottery, from the Kimmeridge shale for bracelets, found as far away as the tombs of Egypt, from the vein of Purbeck marble (now worked out) for Roman bath tiles, medieval monuments, and the shafts of many cathedrals and parish churches, and from the various veins of Purbeck stone to fashion, amongst other things, the buildings of London and the pavements of its streets.

It is anomalous, to say the least, that the river of wealth now flowing from oil should bring no benefit to the district of its source. I suggest that the imminent transfer arrangements should include support for the National Trust, now the largest local landowner, and also the Purbeck District Council.

Yours faithfully, DOUGLAS O'HANLON, Crown Hill, Bon Accord Road, Swanage, Dorset.

Royal Court Theatre

From the Director of the National Theatre and others

Sir, It has been reported in the press that there is currently a proposal before the Arts Council that the Royal Court's grant should be discontinued on the grounds that the National Theatre and the Royal Shakespeare Company have been able to take on the job of presenting the best new English plays of the day.

As directors of these theatres, we would like to dissociate ourselves from this absurd point of view. The Royal Court, through its distinctive and continuous programme of new work, is able to nourish writers at a crucial stage of their careers.

It provides the best possible bridge between the fringe and the larger stages. It continues to present plays of the very best quality, which will now not otherwise be done. We are shocked if this proposal is being seriously entertained and would regard the closing of the Royal Court as an unmitigated disaster for the whole theatrical life of the country.

Yours faithfully, PETER HALL, Director, The National Theatre, TERRY HANDS, TREVOR NUNN, Joint Artistic Directors, Royal Shakespeare Company, As from: The National Theatre, South Bank, SE1, March 17.

Arts Council ruling

From Mr Dannie Abse and others

Sir, Your report (March 5) of the rumoured closure of the Arts Council's literature department deserves to be noted more widely than by those who normally take an interest in literary politics.

Arts Council assistance to literature (less than 2 per cent of its total budget) has never been commensurate with the importance of the art. But any decision to axe the literature department would threaten the work of the many individuals and organisations actively concerned with promoting literature.

The Poetry Society, through its close contacts with writers, publishers, bookshops, schools and literature festival organisers, is acutely aware of the importance of a committed and professional literature department staff and a sensitive and experienced advisory panel.

Without them there would be a real danger that even the present limited role of the Arts Council in promoting literature would be jeopardised, with damaging consequences for all the readers, writers, publishers and others who benefit from it.

Yours sincerely, DANNIE ABSE (President, The Poetry Society), ALAN BROWN (Chairman), BRIAN G. MITCHELL (Director & General Secretary), PAMELA CLUNIES-ROSS (Director, National Poetry Secretariat), The Poetry Society, 21 Earls Court Square, SW5.

The right to work

From Mr Anthony Keston

Sir, Mr Brittan says, "It would be a sad day for this country if it would be regarded as a matter of controversy to suggest that people should not be able to go to work if they want to. Those who want to work have the right to work and they will have all the protection the law can provide".

Would he be good enough, through your columns, to dispel my nagging doubts that these words apply to the three million plus unemployed in addition to those whose jobs are likely to be lost through the closure of sectors of the coalmining industry?

Yours faithfully, A. J. KESTON, 20 Chichester Street, Chester, March 16.

The Labour years

From Sir Woodrow Wyatt

Sir, Dr John Campbell (March 16) complains of my correcting the one-sided account of the Bevan-Gaitskell conflict in my review of Dr Morgan's otherwise excellent book.

I was there. Drs Campbell and Morgan were not. Yours faithfully, WOODROW WYATT, 19 Cavendish Avenue, NW8, March 16.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

March 19: The Queen, with The Duke of Edinburgh, this evening honoured with her presence the Royal Film Performance, The Dresser in aid of the Cinema and Television Benevolent Fund (President, Mr Sydney W. Samuelson) at the Odeon Theatre, Leicester Square.

The Countess of Airlie, Mr Robert Fellowes and Major Hugh Lindsay were in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, President of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts, this evening presented the Craft Awards at 195 Piccadilly, W.1.

Her Royal Highness was received on arrival by the Director of the Academy (Mr Reginald Collins).

Mrs Malcolm Jones and Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Gibbs were in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, President of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts, this evening presented the Craft Awards at 195 Piccadilly, W.1.

Her Royal Highness was received on arrival by the Director of the Academy (Mr Reginald Collins).

Mrs Malcolm Jones and Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Gibbs were in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, President of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts, this evening presented the Craft Awards at 195 Piccadilly, W.1.

Her Royal Highness was received on arrival by the Director of the Academy (Mr Reginald Collins).

Mrs Malcolm Jones and Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Gibbs were in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, President of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts, this evening presented the Craft Awards at 195 Piccadilly, W.1.

Her Royal Highness was received on arrival by the Director of the Academy (Mr Reginald Collins).

Mrs Malcolm Jones and Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Gibbs were in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, President of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts, this evening presented the Craft Awards at 195 Piccadilly, W.1.

Her Royal Highness was received on arrival by the Director of the Academy (Mr Reginald Collins).

Mrs Malcolm Jones and Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Gibbs were in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, President of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts, this evening presented the Craft Awards at 195 Piccadilly, W.1.

Her Royal Highness was received on arrival by the Director of the Academy (Mr Reginald Collins).

Mrs Malcolm Jones and Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Gibbs were in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, President of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts, this evening presented the Craft Awards at 195 Piccadilly, W.1.

Her Royal Highness was received on arrival by the Director of the Academy (Mr Reginald Collins).

Mrs Malcolm Jones and Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Gibbs were in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, President of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts, this evening presented the Craft Awards at 195 Piccadilly, W.1.

Her Royal Highness was received on arrival by the Director of the Academy (Mr Reginald Collins).

Mrs Malcolm Jones and Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Gibbs were in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, President of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts, this evening presented the Craft Awards at 195 Piccadilly, W.1.

Her Royal Highness was received on arrival by the Director of the Academy (Mr Reginald Collins).

Mrs Malcolm Jones and Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Gibbs were in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, President of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts, this evening presented the Craft Awards at 195 Piccadilly, W.1.

Her Royal Highness was received on arrival by the Director of the Academy (Mr Reginald Collins).

Mrs Malcolm Jones and Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Gibbs were in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, President of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts, this evening presented the Craft Awards at 195 Piccadilly, W.1.

Her Royal Highness was received on arrival by the Director of the Academy (Mr Reginald Collins).

Mrs Malcolm Jones and Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Gibbs were in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, President of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts, this evening presented the Craft Awards at 195 Piccadilly, W.1.

Her Royal Highness was received on arrival by the Director of the Academy (Mr Reginald Collins).

Mrs Malcolm Jones and Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Gibbs were in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, President of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts, this evening presented the Craft Awards at 195 Piccadilly, W.1.

Her Royal Highness was received on arrival by the Director of the Academy (Mr Reginald Collins).

Mrs Malcolm Jones and Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Gibbs were in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, President of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts, this evening presented the Craft Awards at 195 Piccadilly, W.1.

Her Royal Highness was received on arrival by the Director of the Academy (Mr Reginald Collins).

Mrs Malcolm Jones and Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Gibbs were in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, President of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts, this evening presented the Craft Awards at 195 Piccadilly, W.1.

Her Royal Highness was received on arrival by the Director of the Academy (Mr Reginald Collins).

Mrs Malcolm Jones and Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Gibbs were in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, President of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts, this evening presented the Craft Awards at 195 Piccadilly, W.1.

Her Royal Highness was received on arrival by the Director of the Academy (Mr Reginald Collins).

Mrs Malcolm Jones and Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Gibbs were in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, President of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts, this evening presented the Craft Awards at 195 Piccadilly, W.1.

Her Royal Highness was received on arrival by the Director of the Academy (Mr Reginald Collins).

KENSINGTON PALACE

March 19: The Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon attended the Third Westminster Spring Festival Daffodil Day Rally at the Central Hall, Westminster, London.

The Hon Mrs Munro was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon attended the Third Westminster Spring Festival Daffodil Day Rally at the Central Hall, Westminster, London.

The Hon Mrs Munro was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon attended the Third Westminster Spring Festival Daffodil Day Rally at the Central Hall, Westminster, London.

The Hon Mrs Munro was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon attended the Third Westminster Spring Festival Daffodil Day Rally at the Central Hall, Westminster, London.

The Hon Mrs Munro was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon attended the Third Westminster Spring Festival Daffodil Day Rally at the Central Hall, Westminster, London.

The Hon Mrs Munro was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon attended the Third Westminster Spring Festival Daffodil Day Rally at the Central Hall, Westminster, London.

The Hon Mrs Munro was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon attended the Third Westminster Spring Festival Daffodil Day Rally at the Central Hall, Westminster, London.

The Hon Mrs Munro was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon attended the Third Westminster Spring Festival Daffodil Day Rally at the Central Hall, Westminster, London.

The Hon Mrs Munro was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon attended the Third Westminster Spring Festival Daffodil Day Rally at the Central Hall, Westminster, London.

The Hon Mrs Munro was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon attended the Third Westminster Spring Festival Daffodil Day Rally at the Central Hall, Westminster, London.

The Hon Mrs Munro was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon attended the Third Westminster Spring Festival Daffodil Day Rally at the Central Hall, Westminster, London.

The Hon Mrs Munro was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon attended the Third Westminster Spring Festival Daffodil Day Rally at the Central Hall, Westminster, London.

The Hon Mrs Munro was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon attended the Third Westminster Spring Festival Daffodil Day Rally at the Central Hall, Westminster, London.

The Hon Mrs Munro was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon attended the Third Westminster Spring Festival Daffodil Day Rally at the Central Hall, Westminster, London.

The Hon Mrs Munro was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon attended the Third Westminster Spring Festival Daffodil Day Rally at the Central Hall, Westminster, London.

The Hon Mrs Munro was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon attended the Third Westminster Spring Festival Daffodil Day Rally at the Central Hall, Westminster, London.

The Hon Mrs Munro was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon attended the Third Westminster Spring Festival Daffodil Day Rally at the Central Hall, Westminster, London.

The Hon Mrs Munro was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon attended the Third Westminster Spring Festival Daffodil Day Rally at the Central Hall, Westminster, London.

The Hon Mrs Munro was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon attended the Third Westminster Spring Festival Daffodil Day Rally at the Central Hall, Westminster, London.

The Hon Mrs Munro was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon attended the Third Westminster Spring Festival Daffodil Day Rally at the Central Hall, Westminster, London.

The Hon Mrs Munro was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon attended the Third Westminster Spring Festival Daffodil Day Rally at the Central Hall, Westminster, London.

The Hon Mrs Munro was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon attended the Third Westminster Spring Festival Daffodil Day Rally at the Central Hall, Westminster, London.

The Hon Mrs Munro was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon attended the Third Westminster Spring Festival Daffodil Day Rally at the Central Hall, Westminster, London.

The Hon Mrs Munro was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon attended the Third Westminster Spring Festival Daffodil Day Rally at the Central Hall, Westminster, London.

The Hon Mrs Munro was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon attended the Third Westminster Spring Festival Daffodil Day Rally at the Central Hall, Westminster, London.

The Hon Mrs Munro was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon attended the Third Westminster Spring Festival Daffodil Day Rally at the Central Hall, Westminster, London.

The Hon Mrs Munro was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon attended the Third Westminster Spring Festival Daffodil Day Rally at the Central Hall, Westminster, London.

The Hon Mrs Munro was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon attended the Third Westminster Spring Festival Daffodil Day Rally at the Central Hall, Westminster, London.

The Hon Mrs Munro was in attendance.



Queen Elizabeth, now the Queen Mother, visiting St Columba's for the foundation stone ceremony in 1950, and (right) Dr Fraser McLuskey preparing for the Queen's visit tomorrow.

Scots 'cathedral' celebration

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

The Queen, the only person in the country who is allowed to be simultaneously a full member of the Church of England and the Church of Scotland, will tomorrow be celebrating the Scottish church's presence in the English capital.

St Columba's, Pont Street, sometimes called Scotland's Cathedral in London, will be marking its centenary with a royal service, one more bond between the church and the Royal Family. The Queen Mother's arms carved over the south doorway are one of the many symbols of that deep and affectionate association.

St Columba's will also be celebrating the outstanding success of its mission on this slightly foreign soil: few churches in London can boast such large regular congregations, so many midweek activities, or such a range of pastoral ministry. It is primarily for the Scots 'in exile', although the settled Scottish population of London and the

South-east provides the continuity and stable community that is the foundation for the work.

But not only professional men and women, temporarily transferred to London, have reason to be grateful to St Columba's. There is also a busy ministry to young people who drift to London looking for work.

The original building, opened a hundred years ago this month, was destroyed in an air raid in 1941, and the present one, with similar ground plan but simpler lines, dates from 1955.

The importance of the London church in the life of the Kirk is shown by the numerous distinguished churchmen who have been appointed to this ministry and, in its centenary year, by the election of the present minister, Dr Fraser McLuskey, as moderator of the General Assembly, the Kirk's senior churchman. He was already well known as a former

chaplain in the SAS, which earned him the title "Parachute Padre" during the Second World War.

St Columba's also has a long standing connection with the London Scottish Regiment and the Royal British Legion, who hold annual services there.

What must distinguish it more than anything else from all other churches in London is the sheer breadth of its facilities, from an old people's home to a "soup kitchen", from badminton and tennis to a literary circle, a Scottish dancing club, a club for the 18-to-30s, a Sunday school, a creche, and a weekly children's service.

Any Scotsman in London on Sunday who attends the morning service is invited to stay to lunch, provided and run by volunteers in the congregation. Dr McLuskey said: "When you put a Scot out of his native land, he becomes more Scottish. The Church of Scotland has found a mission for herself in London."

Bridge England capture Camrose Cup

England won the Camrose Cup for the Home Countries international bridge series for the fifth year in succession, beating Scotland at Falkirk by 4-8, 8-4, 8-4 for a total 20-16 victory.

The weekend was not without incident. John Armstrong was taken ill when it was too late to bring in the reserve pair.

England started with a carry-forward lead of 11 points but when they lost the first match 4-8 and were faced with playing the remaining two matches with a team of only four, it seemed that Scotland might yet pull the series out of the fire.

Wales beat Northern Ireland at Temple Patrick by 9-3, 5-7, 10-2 for a total of 24-12, avoiding the wooden spoon.

England A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z, AA, AB, AC, AD, AE, AF, AG, AH, AI, AJ, AK, AL, AM, AN, AO, AP, AQ, AR, AS, AT, AU, AV, AW, AX, AY, AZ, BA, BB, BC, BD, BE, BF, BG, BH, BI, BJ, BK, BL, BM, BN, BO, BP, BQ, BR, BS, BT, BU, BV, BW, BX, BY, BZ, CA, CB, CC, CD, CE, CF, CG, CH, CI, CJ, CK, CL, CM, CN, CO, CP, CQ, CR, CS, CT, CU, CV, CW, CX, CY, CZ, DA, DB, DC, DD, DE, DF, DG, DH, DI, DJ, DK, DL, DM, DN, DO, DP, DQ, DR, DS, DT, DU, DV, DW, DX, DY, DZ, EA, EB, EC, ED, EE, EF, EG, EH, EI, EJ, EK, EL, EM, EN, EO, EP, EQ, ER, ES, ET, EU, EV, EW, EX, EY, EZ, FA, FB, FC, FD, FE, FF, FG, FH, FI, FJ, FK, FL, FM, FN, FO, FP, FQ, FR, FS, FT, FU, FV, FW, FX, FY, FZ, GA, GB, GC, GD, GE, GF, GG, GH, GI, GJ, GK, GL, GM, GN, GO, GP, GQ, GR, GS, GT, GU, GV, GW, GX, GY, GZ, HA, HB, HC, HD, HE, HF, HG, HH, HI, HJ, HK, HL, HM, HN, HO, HP, HQ, HR, HS, HT, HU, HV, HW, HX, HY, HZ, IA, IB, IC, ID, IE, IF, IG, IH, II, IJ, IK, IL, IM, IN, IO, IP, IQ, IR, IS, IT, IU, IV, IW, IX, IY, IZ, JA, JB, JC, JD, JE, JF, JG, JH, JI, JJ, JK, JL, JM, JN, JO, JP, JQ, JR, JS, JT, JU, JV, JW, JX, JY, JZ, KA, KB, KC, KD, KE, KF, KG, KH, KI, KJ, KL, KM, KN, KO, KP, KQ, KR, KS, KT, KU, KV, KW, KX, KY, KZ, LA, LB, LC, LD, LE, LF, LG, LH, LI, LJ, LK, LL, LM, LN, LO, LP, LQ, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, LW, LX, LY, LZ, MA, MB, MC, MD, ME, MF, MG, MH, MI, MJ, MK, ML, MM, MN, MO, MP, MQ, MR, MS, MT, MU, MV, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NB, NC, ND, NE, NF, NG, NH, NI, NJ, NK, NL, NM, NN, NO, NP, NQ, NR, NS, NT, NU, NV, NW, NX, NY, NZ, OA, OB, OC, OD, OE, OF, OG, OH, OI, OJ, OK, OL, OM, ON, OO, OP, OQ, OR, OS, OT, OU, OV, OW, OX, OY, OZ, PA, PB, PC, PD, PE, PF, PG, PH, PI, PJ, PK, PL, PM, PN, PO, PP, PQ, PR, PS, PT, PU, PV, PW, PX, PY, PZ, QA, QB, QC, QD, QE, QF, QG, QH, QI, QJ, QK, QL, QM, QN, QO, QP, QQ, QR, QS, QT, QU, QV, QW, QX, QY, QZ, RA, RB, RC, RD, RE, RF, RG, RH, RI, RJ, RK, RL, RM, RN, RO, RP, RQ, RR, RS, RT, RU, RV, RW, RX, RY, RZ, SA, SB, SC, SD, SE, SF, SG, SH, SI, SJ, SK, SL, SM, SN, SO, SP, SQ, SR, SS, ST, SU, SV, SW, SX, SY, SZ, TA, TB, TC, TD, TE, TF, TG, TH, TI, TJ, TK, TL, TM, TN, TO, TP, TQ, TR, TS, TT, TU, TV, TW, TX, TY, TZ, UA, UB, UC, UD, UE, UF, UG, UH, UI, UJ, UK, UL, UM, UN, UO, UP, UQ, UR, US, UT, UY, UZ, VA, VB, VC, VD, VE, VF, VG, VH, VI, VJ, VK, VL, VM, VN, VO, VP, VQ, VR, VS, VT, VU, VW, VX, VY, VZ, WA, WB, WC, WD, WE, WF, WG, WH, WI, WJ, WK, WL, WM, WN, WO, WP, WQ, WR, WS, WT, WU, WV, WW, WX, WY, WZ, XA, XB, XC, XD, XE, XF, XG, XH, XI, XJ, XK, XL, XM, XN, XO, XP, XQ, XR, XS, XT, XU, XV, XW, XX, XY, XZ, YA, YB, YC, YD, YE, YF, YG, YH, YI, YJ, YK, YL, YM, YN, YO, YP, YQ, YR, YS, YT, YU, YV, YW, YX, YY, YZ, ZA, ZB, ZC, ZD, ZE, ZF, ZG, ZH, ZI, ZJ, ZK, ZL, ZM, ZN, ZO, ZP, ZQ, ZR, ZS, ZT, ZU, ZV, ZW, ZX, ZY, ZZ.

England A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z, AA, AB, AC, AD, AE, AF, AG, AH, AI, AJ, AK, AL, AM, AN, AO, AP, AQ, AR, AS, AT, AU, AV, AW, AX, AY, AZ, BA, BB, BC, BD, BE, BF, BG, BH, BI, BJ, BK, BL, BM, BN, BO, BP, BQ, BR, BS, BT, BU, BV, BW, BX, BY, BZ, CA, CB, CC, CD, CE, CF, CG, CH, CI, CJ, CK, CL, CM, CN, CO, CP, CQ, CR, CS, CT, CU, CV, CW, CX, CY, CZ, DA, DB, DC, DD, DE, DF, DG, DH, DI, DJ, DK, DL, DM, DN, DO, DP, DQ, DR, DS, DT, DU, DV, DW, DX, DY, DZ, EA, EB, EC, ED, EE, EF, EG, EH, EI, EJ, EK, EL, EM, EN, EO, EP, EQ, ER, ES, ET, EU, EV, EW, EX, EY, EZ, FA, FB, FC, FD, FE, FF, FG, FH, FI, FJ, FK, FL, FM, FN, FO, FP, FQ, FR, FS, FT, FU, FV, FW, FX, FY, FZ, GA, GB, GC, GD, GE, GF, GG, GH, GI, GJ, GK, GL, GM, GN, GO, GP, GQ, GR, GS, GT, GU, GV, GW, GX, GY, GZ, HA, HB, HC, HD, HE, HF, HG, HH, HI, HJ, HK, HL, HM, HN, HO, HP, HQ, HR, HS, HT, HU, HV, HW, HX, HY, HZ, IA, IB, IC, ID, IE, IF, IG, IH, II, IJ, IK, IL, IM, IN, IO, IP, IQ, IR, IS, IT, IU, IV, IW, IX, IY, IZ, JA, JB, JC, JD, JE, JF, JG, JH, JI, JJ, JK, JL, JM, JN, JO, JP, JQ, JR, JS, JT, JU, JV, JW, JX, JY, JZ, KA, KB, KC, KD, KE, KF, KG, KH, KI, KJ, KL, KM, KN, KO, KP, KQ, KR, KS, KT, KU, KV, KW, KX, KY, KZ, LA, LB, LC, LD, LE, LF, LG, LH, LI, LJ, LK, LL, LM, LN, LO, LP, LQ, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, LW, LX, LY, LZ, MA, MB, MC, MD, ME, MF, MG, MH, MI, MJ, MK, ML, MM, MN, MO, MP, MQ, MR, MS, MT, MU, MV, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NB, NC, ND, NE, NF, NG, NH, NI, NJ, NK, NL, NM, NN, NO, NP, NQ, NR, NS, NT, NU, NV, NW, NX, NY, NZ, OA, OB, OC, OD, OE, OF, OG, OH, OI, OJ, OK, OL, OM, ON, OO, OP, OQ, OR, OS, OT, OU, OV, OW, OX, OY, OZ, PA, PB, PC, PD, PE, PF, PG, PH, PI, PJ, PK, PL, PM, PN, PO, PP, PQ, PR, PS, PT, PU, PV, PW, PX, PY, PZ, QA, QB, QC, QD, QE, QF, QG, QH, QI, QJ, QK, QL, QM, QN, QO, QP, QQ, QR, QS, QT, QU, QV, QW, QX, QY, QZ, RA, RB, RC, RD, RE, RF, RG, RH, RI, RJ, RK, RL, RM, RN, RO, RP, RQ, RR, RS, RT, RU, RV, RW, RX, RY, RZ, SA, SB, SC, SD, SE, SF, SG, SH, SI, SJ, SK, SL, SM, SN, SO, SP, SQ, SR, SS, ST, SU, SV, SW, SX, SY, SZ, TA, TB, TC, TD, TE, TF, TG, TH, TI, TJ, TK, TL, TM, TN, TO, TP, TQ, TR, TS, TT, TU, TV, TW, TX, TY, TZ, UA, UB, UC, UD, UE, UF, UG, UH, UI, UJ, UK, UL, UM, UN, UO, UP, UQ, UR, US, UT, UY, UZ, VA, VB, VC, VD, VE, VF, VG, VH, VI, VJ, VK, VL, VM, VN, VO, VP, VQ, VR, VS, VT, VU, VW, VX, VY, VZ, WA, WB, WC, WD, WE, WF, WG, WH, WI, WJ, WK, WL, WM, WN, WO, WP, WQ, WR, WS, WT, WU, WV, WW, WX, WY, WZ, XA, XB, XC, XD, XE, XF, XG, XH, XI, XJ, XK, XL, XM, XN, XO, XP, XQ, XR, XS, XT, XU, XV, XW, XX, XY, XZ, YA, YB, YC, YD, YE, YF, YG, YH, YI, YJ, YK, YL, YM, YN, YO, YP, YQ, YR, YS, YT, YU, YV, YW, YX, YY, YZ, ZA, ZB, ZC, ZD, ZE, ZF, ZG, ZH, ZI, ZJ, ZK, ZL, ZM, ZN, ZO, ZP, ZQ, ZR, ZS, ZT, ZU, ZV, ZW, ZX, ZY, ZZ.

England A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z, AA, AB, AC, AD, AE, AF, AG, AH, AI, AJ, AK, AL, AM, AN, AO, AP, AQ, AR, AS, AT, AU, AV, AW, AX, AY, AZ, BA, BB, BC, BD, BE, BF, BG, BH, BI, BJ, BK, BL, BM, BN, BO, BP, BQ, BR, BS, BT, BU, BV, BW, BX, BY, BZ, CA, CB, CC, CD, CE, CF, CG, CH, CI, CJ, CK, CL, CM, CN, CO, CP, CQ, CR, CS, CT, CU, CV, CW, CX, CY, CZ, DA, DB, DC, DD, DE, DF, DG, DH, DI, DJ, DK, DL, DM, DN, DO, DP, DQ, DR, DS, DT, DU, DV, DW, DX, DY, DZ, EA, EB, EC, ED, EE, EF, EG, EH, EI, EJ, EK, EL, EM, EN, EO, EP, EQ, ER, ES, ET, EU, EV, EW, EX, EY, EZ, FA, FB, FC, FD, FE, FF, FG, FH, FI, FJ, FK, FL, FM, FN, FO, FP, FQ, FR, FS, FT, FU, FV, FW, FX, FY, FZ, GA, GB, GC, GD, GE, GF, GG, GH, GI, GJ, GK, GL, GM, GN, GO, GP, GQ, GR, GS, GT, GU, GV, GW, GX, GY, GZ, HA, HB, HC, HD, HE, HF, HG, HH, HI, HJ, HK, HL, HM, HN, HO, HP, HQ, HR, HS, HT, HU, HV, HW, HX, HY, HZ, IA, IB, IC, ID, IE, IF, IG, IH, II, IJ, IK, IL, IM, IN, IO, IP, IQ, IR, IS, IT, IU, IV, IW, IX, IY, IZ, JA, JB, JC, JD, JE, JF, JG, JH, JI, JJ, JK, JL, JM, JN, JO, JP, JQ, JR, JS, JT, JU, JV, JW, JX, JY, JZ, KA, KB, KC, KD, KE, KF, KG, KH, KI, KJ, KL, KM, KN, KO, KP, KQ, KR, KS, KT, KU, KV, KW, KX, KY, KZ, LA, LB, LC, LD, LE, LF, LG, LH, LI, LJ, LK, LL, LM, LN, LO, LP, LQ, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, LW, LX, LY, LZ, MA, MB, MC, MD, ME, MF, MG, MH, MI, MJ, MK, ML, MM, MN, MO, MP, MQ, MR, MS, MT, MU, MV, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NB, NC, ND, NE, NF, NG, NH, NI, NJ, NK, NL, NM, NN, NO, NP, NQ, NR, NS, NT, NU, NV, NW, NX, NY, NZ, OA, OB, OC, OD, OE, OF, OG, OH, OI, OJ, OK, OL, OM, ON, OO, OP, OQ, OR, OS, OT, OU, OV, OW, OX, OY, OZ, PA, PB, PC, PD, PE, PF, PG, PH, PI, PJ, PK, PL, PM, PN, PO, PP, PQ, PR, PS, PT, PU, PV, PW, PX, PY, PZ, QA, QB, QC, QD, QE, QF, QG, QH, QI, QJ, QK, QL, QM, QN, QO, QP, QQ, QR, QS, QT, QU, QV, QW, QX, QY, QZ, RA, RB, RC, RD, RE, RF, RG, RH, RI, RJ, RK, RL, RM, RN, RO, RP, RQ, RR, RS, RT, RU, RV, RW, RX, RY, RZ, SA, SB, SC, SD, SE, SF, SG, SH, SI, SJ, SK, SL, SM, SN, SO, SP, SQ, SR, SS, ST, SU, SV, SW, SX, SY, SZ, TA, TB, TC, TD, TE, TF, TG, TH, TI, TJ, TK, TL, TM, TN, TO, TP, TQ, TR, TS, TT, TU, TV, TW, TX, TY, TZ, UA, UB, UC, UD, UE, UF, UG, UH, UI, UJ, UK, UL, UM, UN, UO, UP, UQ, UR, US, UT, UY, UZ, VA, VB, VC, VD, VE, VF, VG, VH, VI, VJ, VK, VL, VM, VN, VO, VP, VQ, VR, VS, VT, VU, VW, VX, VY, VZ, WA, WB, WC, WD, WE, WF, WG, WH, WI, WJ, WK, WL, WM, WN, WO, WP, WQ, WR, WS, WT, WU, WV, WW, WX, WY, WZ, XA, XB, XC, XD, XE, XF, XG, XH, XI, XJ, XK, XL, XM, XN, XO, XP, XQ,

THE ARTS

Galleries

Photography inspired by painting

Julia Margaret Cameron, 1815-1879
John Hansard, Southampton

Eugene Atget: Photographs of Old France
Serpentine

A major exhibition devoted to the work of Julia Margaret Cameron, such as that at the John Hansard Gallery of Southampton University until April 28 (after which it will tour the regions as well as visiting Bonn, Paris, Madrid and New York), is particularly timely at the moment, coinciding as it does with the Tate's definitive Pre-Raphaelite show, to which she provides in certain respects a photographic equivalent. But the collection also gives food for thought about the nature, advantages and limitations of the photographic image and the difference between "photographic" and "painterly" effects in photography.

In some ways Mrs Cameron's attitudes, though chronologically post-Pre-Raphaelite, were aesthetically of the generation preceding them. She was one of those redoubtable Victorian ladies, like Mrs Jameson and Lady Eastlake, who acquired expertise in the history of painting. Renaissance art. When she took up photography, in her late forties, she was very conscious of exploring it as an artistic medium, and never seems to have questioned for a moment that her models should be drawn from painting. She was particularly influenced by Raphael, Michelangelo and Guido Reni (enough to set any self-respecting Pre-Raphaelite's hair on end), and in many cases deliberately adapted poses and compositions from them, via the reproductions published by the Arundel Society. But she was also a close friend of the Tennysons, her near neighbour in the Isle of Wight, and so naturally she was attracted to Tennyson's poetry, in much the same way that the Pre-Raphaelites were, as a subject for her skills as an illustrator, and at least half her output was marked by a sort of Romantic medievalism very like their own.

And why not? After all, if today's orthodoxy suggests very different approaches to the art of photography, that does not mean that we need dismiss out of hand an approach which seemed right and logical a century ago. And yet there is something quite disturbing about the majority of her work, in fact, is what most of them look like. We do not see this venerable gentleman as King Lear, that rather weedy-looking individual as Sir Lancelot, that long-necked, rather disgruntled looking girl as St Agnes or this hefty

lady in a funny hat as Zuleika, the Bride of Abydos. What we see are not literary abstractions, but very specific individual Victorians in costume, perhaps at one of those costume balls they so loved at the time, or playing elaborate charades.

Of course, much the same complaints have been levelled at many of the Pre-Raphaelites' historical pageants, or for that matter the classical scenes of Olympians like Leighton and Alma-Tadema. Often today we prefer the Pre-Raphaelites' reflections on contemporary life, or relish the historical and legendary scenes for the slightly surreal quality that this deeply anachronistic mixture of elements creates. Somehow the effect is not so radically disturbing in painting, however, since paint always retains some of its power to abstract and generalize. But whether or not we are credulous enough to believe that the camera cannot lie, this element of inescapable particularity constantly gets in the way.

Naturally, that does not mean that the photographs are thus devoid of interest or aesthetic quality. If they do not succeed in their prime conscious intention, they still succeed in a secondary, and perhaps more important, way. Clearly, as with all great photographers (for Mrs Cameron was certainly that), these photographs show us not just what was in front of the camera, but how the photographer saw it and what she saw in it. She obviously found beauty, wisdom, spirituality or whatever in certain physical types, and her favourite models recur constantly. But, even making full allowance for this kind of partiality, this collection does seem to demonstrate that in those days women - some women anyway - did look as the Pre-Raphaelites painted them, that their standards of beauty were not entirely imaginary. We can also see the shape of things to come: some portraits one would swear are of Vanessa Redgrave, others surely must be Virginia Woolf. But whoever they look like, and whoever they are supposed to be representing, these people, so exquisitely captured in the look like people, living and breathing before the camera. Whether true or an imaginative vision, they open with astonishing immediacy a window upon vanished time.

The photographs of Eugene Atget seem to be much simpler. While Mrs Cameron was very much the conscious, even self-conscious, artist, Atget was more like one of the heroic generation of Hollywood film directors, a professional doing quite a humble, straightforward job with no artistic pretensions. What he aimed at, apparently, since he left no high-flown statements of intention was to compile a library of photographic documents, to be of use to others, such as the academic painters to whom in early years he sold photographs of architectural details they could transplant directly to their paintings. He must himself have had a taste for the



Julia Margaret Cameron's *King Lear allotting his Kingdom to his three daughters* (1872): the models for Lear and Cordelia are Charles Hay Cameron, the photographer's husband, and Alice Liddell Carroll's "Alice"

outmoded, the moribund and the just plain peculiar, or he would not have taken so many more photographs of odd nooks and crannies and about-to-be-demolished buildings than he also engaged in possibly feasible (though all ultimately abortive) commercial enterprises like photographing the interiors of artistic and literary homes for a never-published book the model for which survives in the Musée Carnavalet.

We should probably beware of psychologizing, faced with a series like *Photographs of Old France* on show at the Serpentine Gallery until Sunday. It has been suggested, for instance, that Atget's apparent taste for photographing scenes devoid of human figures may signify that he had a bleak and lonely childhood. It has also been suggested that it was simply because to the end (he lived, active to the last, until 1927) his equipment remained so primitive he could not get people to hold still long enough. And quite possibly in those concentrating on architectural or botanical documents he was just doing what his clients wanted.

All the same, there is unmistakably something mysterious and odd about Atget. Perhaps he is not such a consummate artist as recent hype has cracked him up to be, but artist he certainly was, whether he thought so or not. His pictures are always immaculately composed and richly toned, even

though his conceptions of the pictorial are far from conventional. His subjects, perhaps, are more conventional than we tend to think, if we compare his photographs not so much with other photographers of his era but with the more conservative landscape painters active between 1890 and 1925: not the Impressionists and their followers, though he photographed many of their favourite haunts up and down the Seine and they generally shared his lack of interest in industrial landscape. But those still in the sober tradition of topographical illustration or those who held on to the ideas of Millet or Bastien-Lepage (especially the latter) would surely offer a close comparison with his quaint urban corners like *Beauvais, ruelle Nicolas-Godin*, or the unobtrusive natural symbolism of a picture like *Rue d'Amiens*, with its blasted tree growing out of or built into a wayside shrine.

Again, we do not know how far he took these pictures consciously to please himself or merely to supply a felt want. But it hardly matters, if they are not from a deliberate determination to make art, but from a total inability not to, they are then one of the most telling vindications of Surrealist belief in automatism, and it is only right that the Surrealists finally discovered this strange old man and claimed him for their own.

John Russell Taylor

Zeal is often inimical to objectivity and the trouble with drama-documentary is that the first half of that compound word can overwhelm the second. Horowitz's *Prisoners of Incest*, on BBC2 last night, seemed to me to fall foul of both hazards.

The zeal was for the treatment initiated at the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children which aims to mitigate the damage to a family caused by incest. To this end, family and offender are united to be encouraged to communicate. A psychiatrist and a social worker sit in to facilitate this and the proceedings are relayed by television to another room where other experts sit and advise the psychiatrist during breaks.

Last night's situation was based on that of a real family, but played by actors. Each had studied a biography of the character to be played and

Television Invalid context

discussions of the family's problems were held to support their improvisation, for that was what it was. The psychiatrist and assisting staff played themselves.

What it amounted to was a demonstration of a technique. The validity of such a simulation in any other sense is obviously questionable. It could have been contained - less dramatically, certainly, because the cast performed extremely well - as part of a more broadly-based programme which would have been more informative and less open to a charge of gimmickry.

There could also have been

an indication of the success of this treatment beyond Horowitz's belief, implicit in the decision to show it in this form, and comment from others on it. I do not think that incest is as taboo a subject as the producer Robin Brightwell believes, for subjects do receive an airing outside *Horizon*; and, if it were, this highly dramatic approach was harrowing enough to be counter-productive.

Mr Brightwell is not unaware of possible dissent. In *Radio Times* he anticipates criticism: "Some people will say we haven't blamed the man enough. Others - the anti-shrink lobby - will be critical of the psychiatrist. Then there is the fact that it is a drama-documentary. Some people may object to that." Some people, too, might think that this programme lacked context and got hoist on its own petard. I would be one of those.

Dennis Hackett

Concerts

Philharmonia/Haitink
Festival Hall/Radio 3

I doubt if it is possible to get the *Missa Solemnis* wrong, but certainly there are performances that get it more right than others, and Sunday's, conducted by Bernard Haitink, was one of those almost excessively marvellous occasions I do not expect to hear matched this side of eternity. The key to its success was in the harmony.

Mr Haitink did not take the common course of trying to project the work as a symphony, or, if he did, it was a Bruckner symphony he had in mind and not one by Beethoven: a symphony where the old modes have begun to cut the music adrift from its roots, begun to dissipate the onward momentum, so that harmonic movement tends to be erratic or else almost non-existent.

Only a performance which attends to all of the harmony, instead of trying to rescue a smooth line of progress, can penetrate to this essence of the work's nature, and only a performance of strong rhythmic feeling can then keep it from falling apart.

That was another of Mr Haitink's achievements. Speeds were often fast, and contrasts of speed and texture very marked. The opening of the Gloria, for instance, had the chorus shouting in song to make their upward scales great streaks of lightning across the heavens of heaven.

Mr Haitink then accepted the complete change of musical character that comes with the consideration of peace, but because the performance was clearly articulated it kept a sense of continuing pulse, which here was much more appropriate a generator of movement than any attempt to exert harmonic pressure.

The same clarity of articulation was invaluable in the fugues, not only in distinguishing lines but also in defining the themes as strings of individual related notes and not as completely unified entities.

The means were then available for delicate detachment in the fugue of the Credo and Agnus Dei, or for a similarly objective majesty in that of the Gloria, which was quite magnificent in realizing the awesome of that moment when the music threatens to freeze

into a dominant chord for ever, or in encouraging the soloists to make pure, powerful chords, or in reaching a blithe exaltation in the concluding burst of triple time.

The solo quartet of Helen Donath, Alfreda Hodgson, Robert Tear and John Shirley-Quirk was various but strong all through, and there were immediate studies of resilience from the Philharmonia Chorus, as well as from an orchestra singing their parts with the rest.

Paul Griffiths

Songmakers' Almanac
Wigmore Hall

Despite anecdotes about Glinka's messy building, the Songmakers' Almanac's latest two-part entertainment, "Tchaikovsky and his Circle", is really something of a heavyweight. Not in the music itself, the evening audience was to hear the story of the yep Mack alliance in the music of Tchaikovsky and Debussy, and we in the afternoon were presented with the salo nationalism of Glinka, Dargomizhsky, Rubinstein and "The Five".

Much of the material was as ambivalent and intractable as Tchaikovsky's own relationship with the Five, and despite the copious research attested to in his notes and bibliography, Graham Johnson's linking narratives became uncharacteristically stuck in repetition, overfamiliar fact and loose connections.

The Almanac were unfortunate, too, in the temporary indisposition of Anthony Rolfe Johnson: Julian Pike's tenor contributions were understandable tentative.

Otherwise, the voices carried the day. Miriam Bowen and Caroline Friend were happy in duet and nicely contrasted in well-cast solos: Ms Bowen poignant in Balakirev's "Hebrew melody", Ms Friend dark-toned in his "Hearing your voice". For Tchaikovsky these were "little masterpieces", an epithet he would never have applied to Dargomizhsky, whose "amateurishness" was sadly illustrated by only one example, "The old corporal".

So we had to take Tchaikovsky's word for that. Not so with Mussorgsky: the greater gulf between the two men seemed to

generate the greater interest in programming. That "very original talent", which Tchaikovsky grudgingly said flashed out occasionally from the "coarsest, ugliest" face of Mussorgsky, was revealed at once in the fine, silver-pointed vocal line and spare accompaniment of "Where are you little star?"

Hilary Finch

Bishop-Kovacevich
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Full of orchestral evocations, Berlioz's *Sonata* is post-*Tristan* piano music, and on Sunday Stephen Bishop-Kovacevich made an excellent presentation of its essential fluidity. Compositionally speaking, one event melts into another in a way that offers an enlightening perspective on the formal precision - no matter how adventurous - of Beethoven's "Waldstein" Sonata. In the circumstances it was a pity this received a much less good performance than the *Berg*.

There was a frequent tendency for the left hand to overbalance the right, and one did wonder if this was due to Mr Bishop-Kovacevich having the curtains at the back of the stage partly drawn aside. Certainly the basic energy embodied in Beethoven's many drumming, repeated-note figures in the first movement overpowered the treble's more various and developed thoughts.

The exceptions were the several statements of the second subject, which had a lyrical poise that contrasted rather too much with the surroundings. On a similar level was the slow movement, and Mr Bishop-Kovacevich glided into the final Rondo with an effective gentleness. It was unfortunate that in the louder episodes the weaknesses of the opening movement reappeared.

An altogether different story was told in Brahms. The first intermezzo of Op 117 was exquisitely judged, and seemed like a play of subtle half-lights rather than of notes. In the third number of this set there was an extraordinarily supple ebb and flow to the music's intensity, and there was similar playing in the four intermezzos of Op 116.

Max Harrison

Theatre Black Mas New End

Starting at high tension and pretty well maintaining it for an hour and half, John Constable's first play is an impressive display of skill and nerve, fully matched by the Poco Novo company under Roland Rees's direction.

Noises off deafeningly announce Trinidad's Carnival

before the show even starts, then an English girl and boy burst into the seedy hotel lobby (presented to the life in Peter Whiteman's set) already at screaming point from noise, groping males, claustrophobia, and despair of ever getting back to their beds across town. Apparently a welcome refuge, the hotel is also established as a place from which there is temporarily no escape.

The nightmare closes in from then on, intensified by the subtlest means. The hotelier (Trevor Butler), all black chest

and white teeth, cheerfully advises them to trust nobody, not even himself. Periodic shocks include James Snell's arrival as a grinning white man, apparently, since he left no high-flown statements of intention was to compile a library of photographic documents, to be of use to others, such as the academic painters to whom in early years he sold photographs of architectural details they could transplant directly to their paintings. He must himself have had a taste for the

and white teeth, cheerfully advises them to trust nobody, not even himself. Periodic shocks include James Snell's arrival as a grinning white man, apparently, since he left no high-flown statements of intention was to compile a library of photographic documents, to be of use to others, such as the academic painters to whom in early years he sold photographs of architectural details they could transplant directly to their paintings. He must himself have had a taste for the

characters have been carefully picked for political as well as sexual tension: the Black wanting one white man's money and the other's woman, the prosperous settler terrified of another Black who has stolen his wife, the British liberal despising a white exploiter.

Whose murder will it end in? Mr Butler recounts the African legend of Anancy the spider, who wittily cheated death. Anancy's web, enmeshes the play; as a carnival disguise, as a

peasy on the wall or a macabre joke. Miss Harrison, having a seizure or possibly bewitched, speaks of her "Venus's fly trap" in inspired multiple wordplay. The elaborate role-playing ritual excoriated her, however provoked or incredible, that up the images in a complex of free association that Mr Constable clearly enjoys. Though too unreal to intensify the menace, it is interlarded with performance until the final shot releases us.

Anthony Masters

Law Report March 20 1984

Mobility pension forfeited on leaving country

Insurance Officer v Hemmatt
Before Lord Justice Waller, Lord Justice Oliver and Lord Justice Purchas
[Judgment delivered March 13]

Section 104 (1)(b) of the Social Security Act 1975 enabled an insurance officer or a local tribunal to review a decision to award a mobility allowance under section 37A of the 1975 Act where the person to whom the allowance had been made subsequently effected a permanent change of residence, so that he no longer "satisfies prescribed conditions as to residence or presence in Great Britain" within the meaning of section 37A.

The Court of Appeal so held following an appeal by the insurance officer from the decision of the Social Security Commissioner on November 15, 1982. Mr Simon D Brown for the insurance officer, Mr Richard Sheldon for the claimant, and LORD JUSTICE OLIVER said that the claimant, Maurice George Edward Hemmatt, having become disabled to an extent which prevented him walking, had applied for a mobility allowance on July 29, 1976.

Following a report from a medical practitioner that he was likely to continue to be unable to walk until pensionable age, he was awarded a mobility allowance from July 29, 1976 until May 29, 1993, the date of his sixty-fifth birthday. On September 20, 1979, he went to live in the Irish Republic.

The insurance officer thereupon reviewed the original award and issued a decision disallowing further payments of the mobility allowance. The claimant appealed to a local tribunal, which allowed his appeal, and the insurance officer appealed to the Social Security Commissioner.

That appeal was ultimately argued on the question whether on the true construction of the Social Security Act 1975 and the regulations made under it, the original decision to award a mobility allowance was reviewable at all by reason of a change of residence after the date from which the award took effect.

The commissioner concluded that the statute conferred no power to review the original decision; or, alternatively, that if it did, the

power was inapplicable in the case of a change of residence.

His Lordship read section 37A of the 1975 Act (which had been introduced by section 22 of the Social Security Pensions Act 1975). Subsection (7) was the critical provision in relation to the present appeal. The effect of the section could be summarized as follows.

The claimant had to fulfil two conditions: first, he had to comply with the "prescribed conditions" as to residence or presence; and, second, he had to comply with the requirements of subsection (2) where the regulations made thereunder as to the extent and duration of his disability.

But the question of his entitlement, certainly as regarded his original claim for an allowance, had to be judged at the date when the claim was received by the minister. The power to review decisions was contained in section 104 of the Social Security Act 1975, subsection (1)(b) of which provided for review where "there has been any relevant change of circumstances since the decision was given". Leaving aside subsection (7) of

section 37A, there was nothing on the face of the section or of the regulations which indicated that satisfying the prescribed conditions as to residence and presence in Great Britain was a once-for-all condition which did not have to endure throughout the period over which the allowance was payable.

On the ordinary reading of subsection (1) the requirement of residence was one which continued to apply in just the same way as the requirement of continuing disability, and that was entirely consistent with regulation 23 of the Social Security Mobility Allowance Regulations (SI 1975 No 1573) which referred to the conditions to be fulfilled "on any day".

Indeed, that, accorded with common sense, for it was difficult to see why the legislature should have thought it either necessary or desirable to provide lifelong benefits at the expense of the British taxpayer, a person who might immediately leave the country and go to live elsewhere.

Moreover, the concept of a continuing necessity to satisfy the prescribed conditions was one

which was clearly reflected in the analogous provisions of the same chapter of the Act which provided for other non-contributory benefits.

Despite Mr Sheldon's clear and helpful argument, his Lordship could not find anything in the legislation itself or in the regulations made thereunder which led to the conclusion that subsection (7) of section 37A was dealing with anything but the original claim for allowance or which, with respect to the commissioner, compelled a construction which was not only out of line with the clearly expressed legislative intention as to other forms of non-contributory benefit but which seemed contrary to common sense.

In his Lordship's judgment, section 104 (1) (b) of the Act enabled a review to be held on a permanent change of residence and he would therefore allow the appeal and remit the matter to the commissioner for decision on the other points argued before him.

Lord Justice Purchas and Lord Justice Oliver agreed.

Solicitors: DHSS Solicitor; Ralph Haring & Co.

Whether a person is a member of the household

N (a Minor) v Birmingham District Council
Before Sir John Arnold, President
[Judgment delivered March 15]

The question whether a person was or was not a member of the household depended upon the view the fact-finding tribunal took of all the circumstances as a matter of fact and degree.

Sir John Arnold, President of the Family Division, so held, dismissing an appeal by the minor from the decision of Birmingham Juvenile Court which as a preliminary to care proceedings found that another child was a member of the household to which the appellant belonged.

Section 1 of the Children and Young Persons Act 1969 provided: "(2) If the court before which a child or young person is brought under this section is of the opinion that any of the following conditions is satisfied with respect to him, that

is to say - (a) his proper development is being avoidably prevented or neglected, or his health is being avoidably impaired or neglected or he is being ill-treated; or (b) it is probable that the condition set out in the preceding paragraph will be satisfied in his case, having regard to the fact that the court or another court has found that that condition is or was satisfied in the case of another child or young person who is or was a member of the household to which he belongs... and also that he is in need of care or control... then... the court may... make such an order."

Mr Richard Woodhouse and Mr John Harvey for the appellant minor, Mr R. M. K. Gray, QC for Birmingham District Council.

THE PRESIDENT said that on September 1, 1978 the Birmingham Juvenile Court had made a care order relating to an older child of the mother of the appellant minor.

The older child was the child of the mother and her then husband. She had been neglected and was still in the care of the local authority.

The mother had separated from her husband, had moved house, there had been divorce and in 1983 she had given birth to the boy, the subject of the proceedings. The claimant was the man with whom she father was the man with whom she was now living. At the hearing it was submitted that the older child was not a member of the household to which the boy belonged and that the condition set out in section 1(2) (b) was not satisfied.

In *England v Secretary of State for Social Services* (1982) 3 FLR 222, the word "household" in section 1(1) of the Family Income Supplement Act 1970 had been considered by Mr Justice Woolf who at p224, after considering *Simmons v Pizzey* (1979) AC 371 had said: "There are three categories of situation which can arise before the tribunal of fact. The first

category... where the only decision which the tribunal can, as a matter of law, come to is that the persons concerned are members of the household."

"The second... where the only decision which the tribunal of fact can come to is that the persons concerned are not members of the household."

"The third category... where it is proper to regard the persons concerned either as being members or not being members of the household depending on the view which the fact-finding tribunal takes of all the circumstances as a matter of fact and degree."

In the context of section 1(2)(b) of the 1969 Act the care and welfare of the child was a circumstance relevant to the question to the household to which the older and the younger child belonged.

comprising the household and not to the locality.

In the present case the mother was the dominant person. In 1978 the older child had lived with the mother and the father, now the younger child lived with the mother and his father. The present case was a third category case as described by Mr Justice Woolf. The justices had concluded that the older child was a member of the household to which the younger child belonged.

Whether a person was or was not a member of the household depended upon the view that the fact-finding tribunal took of all the circumstances as a matter of fact and degree. No fact had emerged to render the view that the justices took untenable. The appeal would be dismissed.

Solicitors: Mandelberg, Rosenberg & Co, Birmingham; Mr G. W. T. Pitt, Birmingham.

26th Issue
Certificates
WITHDRAWN

The 26th Issue National
Savings Certificate was
withdrawn from sale
on 19th March.

Details of the
27th Issue are being
announced separately.

Issued by the Department for National Savings.

● Rich variety of entries

COMPUTER HORIZONS

● All our prize-winners

12-year-olds among Top Ten winners

A group of twelve-year-olds formed the youngest group of prizewinners in The Times National Microcomputer Challenge, whose judges have announced the ten regional winners.

The level of the 500 entries was high, and in many cases, the regional co-ordinators felt there was great potential for commercial use of many ideas of the projects. Entries to provide socially useful ideas, projects ranged from a system to control diabetes diets to knitting patterns, integrated alarm systems, fish

disease diagnosis, acoustic braille, mountain rescue survival, screening for blood pressure, calculations for maintenance settlements in divorce cases, and diagnosis of hay fever.

In several regions, the judges found the entries were so numerous, and of such high quality, that they decided to add commendations in addition to the three prizewinners. The ten regional winners will now become contestants in the national finals, which will be held at the Holiday Inn, Marble Arch, London, on April 18, as

part of the London Festival of Computing. ROBERT BEATTIE, a sixteen-year-old student from Aberdeen, representing a "Teach yourself to read" project, won first prize in the Scottish region, for an easy learning aid to reading, involving computer graphics and video tape.

Another student, eighteen-year-old JEFFREY COOKE from Derry, Northern Ireland, representing St. Columba's College, gained a first prize in the North West and Northern Ireland, for a well thought-out project using acoustic braille. At present his group has an early prototype running, and this is proving useful to blind users, who are able to use a computer with sound instead of visual characters, and a simplified keyboard.

The social uses continue with the winner from the North East, MR W DAWSON, of Middlesborough, with his entry on behalf of a resource unit at Beverley school for the Deaf in Middlesborough. Their project involves recording sign language on disc, using light pens, and animation.

From Yorkshire and Humberside, the winner was ERNEST PHILLIPS, a building surveyor from Newby Clapham, N. Yorks. His entry was for a computer-controlled burglar alarm, which, connected to a standard security system, could then be linked via a telephone



THE MIDLANDS

1st R. Collins (Student 20) "The Hawthorns", University of Keele, Keele, Staffs. Project: Educational software for retarded children.
2nd A. Thornton (Schoolboy 11) "Greenways", Old Road, Riddington, Nottingham. Project: Programme to help the aged memories.
3rd R. Singh (Student 16) 45 Oxford Road, West Bromwich, West Midlands. Project: Aid for speech deficiencies.
1st reserve: A P. Bateson (RAF 48), Woodward Farm, The Brigs, Old Leake, Boston, Lincs. Project: Early warning system for aged.
2nd reserve: P. P. Soper (Systems analyst 41) "Parsons Close", Oakham Road, Tilton on the Hill, Leicestershire. Project: Legless secretary for the blind.

modern to a neighbour's computer or central police station.
ROBERT COLLINS, a 30-year-old student from Keele University, was first prize in the Midlands region for his submission for educational software for retarded children. The judges said the use of computers in special schools could have far-reaching effects. He has already started a project with two university departments to study the use of computers in these schools.

The normally time consuming task of calculating maintenance in matrimonial cases is covered in the first prize entry by solicitor DAVID GREEN from Castle Morris, near Haverfordwest, in the Welsh region.

The South West, normally a computer literate area, did not disappoint this time, and the judges added four commendations to the three winning entries. First prize was won by a Naval officer JON DINGLE from Plymouth. His entry, "Bikesafe", uses the popular arcade style game to teach young motorcyclists roadcraft and safety.

The only woman to gain a first prize is ROSEMARY CRAWFORD, organiser of the WRVS in Berkhamstead. She won the Northern Counties section with her proposals for computerising her local "Meals on Wheels" service, keeping updates on rounds, customers' holidays, extra meals and another details.

JOHN ADRIAN, a twelve-year-old from Bokenham, headed a group of five boys from Kelsey Park school, Bokenham, to win first prize in the Southern Home Counties region with their entry to help dyslexics to read. Using computer graphics and repetitive points, children can be encouraged to overcome their difficulty.

Another anti-crime system won first prize in the Greater London section for MR T. G. WILLS-SANDFORD, whose proposal dealt with the use of a micro as an aid to home-beat policemen, maintaining a easy reference files of keyholders, unattended premises, local crime trends, and simple word processing for local police newsletters.

To all those who took part in the competition we offer our thanks and to the winners our congratulations.

● First prizewinners receive a BBC micro model B; second a £50 W. H. Smith voucher and third, a £30 voucher.

UK events

Microcomputer Applications Workshop, Computer Laboratory, Liverpool University, March 26, 27, 28. Sinclair Education Exhibition, Central Hall, Westminster, March 28-30.

Microcomputer Networks Workshop, Computer Laboratory, Liverpool University, March 27, 28. Electron & BBC Micro User Show, New Horticultural Hall, Westminster, London, March 29-April 1.

Computer Aided Design, Met Exhibition Hall, April 3-5. Artificial Intelligence Seminar, City University, London, April 7-8.

Sir Frederick Osborn School Computer Fair, Sir Frederick Osborn School, Welwyn Garden City, April 8.

COMPEC WALES, Cardiff University, April 10-12. Computer for Builders Exhibition, Cavendish Conference Centre 82, New Cavendish Street, London W1, April 12.

Personal Computer Games Show, Solihull Conference Centre, Birmingham, April 20-22.

Overseas

Hanover Fair, Hanover, Germany, April 4-11. Videotex '84, Hyatt Regency, Chicago, April 16-18.

Computerised Office Equipment Exhibition, Rosemont, USA, May 1-3.

Compiled by Personal Computer News

Computer Professionals
FREE LIST
of vacancies in your field
ALL AREAS
DAILY 10.00-11.00 AM
CHOICE
COMPUTER RECRUITMENT

The Times Microcomputer Challenge Regional Winners

SCOTLAND

1st Robert Beattie (Student 16) Allans Aberdeen
Project: Teach yourself to read
2nd Tariq Hamid (Schoolboy 17) 23 Barrachnie Road Glasgow
Project: Read the written word aloud
3rd Rev C Brockie 51 Portland Road Kilmarnock
Project: Deaf sign language
Reserve A. Readie (Teacher 35) 18 Kings Road Dunfermline Fife
Project: Mountain rescue, survival
Reserve A. G. Intish (Accountant 49) Project: Mountain rescue, preventative
Commended R. Clark (Bioengineer 29) c/o "Stoneydyke", Watt Road Bridge of Weir Renfrewshire
Project: Fish disease diagnosis

THE NORTH AND N IRELAND

1st J. E. Cooke (Student 18) 152 Gallagh Park, Derry, N. Ireland
Project: Acoustic braille
2nd Charlotte Cooper (Housewife/Teacher 41) The Vicarage, Bridelick, Cockermouth, Cumbria.
Project: Community computers
3rd R. H. Mayne (Electronic Engineer 28) Guest Youth Workshop Ltd, 40 Linenhall Street, Belfast
Project: Intelligent computer switch

THE NORTH EAST

1st W. Dawson (Illustrator 33) 40 Cambridge Road, Linthorpe, Middlesbrough, Cleveland.
Project: "Total Communication" for the deaf
2nd D. Rhodes (School master 47) 10 Tankerville Terrace, Newcastle upon Tyne.
Project: Diet/disease correlation
3rd G. Septon (Student 15) 11 Barrow Drive, Sunderland, Tyne & Wear.
Project: OAP protection/help
Reserve M. Douglas (Systems programmer 30) 38 Granville Street, Gateshead, Tyne & Wear.
Project: Info advisory system
Reserve D. Irwin (Business creation 28) Project: North East
5 Saville Place, Newcastle upon Tyne
Self-employment

YORKSHIRE AND HUMBERSIDE

1st E. Phillips (Building surveyor 41) Town Head, Newby, Clapham, N. Yorks.
Project: Micro as an anti-burglary device
2nd T. Oldham (Nurse teacher 41) 30 Cockerham Avenue, Barnsley, S. Yorks.
Project: Computers and the nursing process
3rd M. P. Doyle (Teacher 39) 37 Bright Street, Skipton
Project: Common software for able bodied and the disabled
Reserve A. Gordhams (GP 51) Ashby Clinic, Colton Lane, Scunthorpe, South Humberside
Project: High blood pressure screening by micro
Commended R. D. Ward (Research Assistant 34) 215 Marlborough Avenue, Hull
Project: Interconnected micros for educational purposes
Commended: S. J. Ashburne (Unemployed 36) "Beachies", St. James Place, Basildon, Shipley, W. Yorks.
Project: "Characteristics" Commended: Monica Matthey (Housewife 62) 14 Brookfields, Netherthorn, Wakefield, W. Yorks.
Project: Knitting patterns.

WALES

1st D. A. R. Green (Solicitor 49) Rhysyrd, Harding, Castle Morris, N. Haverfordwest
Project: Maintenance calculations in divorce settlements
2nd Judith L. Moore (Housewife 36) 4 Borrowdale Close, Penylan, Cardiff.
Project: Social communication programme
3rd Jill C. Hutt (Unemployed 38) 6 Greenland Crescent, Fairwater, Cardiff.
Project: Enquiry stats programme for the homeless

THE SOUTH WEST

1st J. Dingle (Naval officer 26) Blenheim House, Golden Square, Colebrook, Plymouth
Project: Bikesafe
2nd A. R. Tanner (Consultant physician 50) Granville House, Hayesfield Park Bath
Project: Diagnosis of asthma and hayfever
3rd Claire Kinsey and A. Sinclair (Students, both 22) Speech Therapy Dept, Frenchay Hospital Bristol

Project: Microassisted speech therapy
Commended Pamela E. Singleton (Housewife 55) 51 Griffin Close Stow on the Wold Glos
Project: Home hunting
Commended J. Lancaster (Schoolboy 14) 9 Cleave Cloud Lane Prestbury Cheltenham Glos
Project: School time tabling
Commended Dr R. H. Lewis (Oceanographer 40) 21 Pomeroy Avenue Brixham Devon
Project: Drift - research and rescue aid
Commended Dawn Adams (Volunteer bureau organiser 50) Montrose House Wellington Street Cheltenham Glos
Project: Voluntary organisation databank

NORTHERN HOME COUNTIES

1st Rosemary E. Crawford (WRVS organiser 50) 18 Montague Road Berkhamstead Herts
Project: An aid to the meals on wheels service
2nd Stephanie Jenkins (Secretary 32) 39 Kennett Road, Headington Oxford
Project: Knitting patterns
3rd P. Chase (Student 14) 17 Millers Road, Toft, Cambridge
Project: Computer games for the blind
Reserve H. R. Schurr (Applied biologist 53) Meadowside, 17 Hinton Road Fulbourn, Cambridge
Project: Establishing "need" as a basis for staffing homes
Reserve D. M. Floyd (Operational research 41) Beechwood, Beech Lane, Jordans, Bucks
Project: Vocational guidance system for disabled
Commended Chadwell Heath High School Pupils (Mrs C. M. Bassant) Christie Gardens, Chadwell Heath Romford, Essex
Project: Computerised health service
Commended R. Burgess (Systems analyst 48) 3 Mulberry Close, Crowthorne, Barks
Project: Chinese script

SOUTHERN HOME COUNTIES

1st J. Adrian (Student 12) c/o Kelsey Park School Manor Way Seckingham Kent
Project: Doctors surgery data storage and retrieval
Commended Susan Rowlett (Teacher 31) 8 Byfield Road, Isleworth, Middx
Project: Library system for the partially sighted

3rd Mrs C. Carter and R. Hinton (Students, both 15) George Abbot School Woodruff Avenue, Burpham Guildford Surrey
Project: "Break the barrier" - communication programme
Reserve N. J. Marsh (Unemployed 31) 11 Lavender Gardens Forest Chase Bordon Hants
Project: Highway code and road sense testing
Reserve P. Ebert (Executive 40) 5 Western Lane, Odham Hants
Project: Diabetics diet control
Commended Lorna Ridgway-Compand Seven Springs Cheshire Home Pembury Road Tunbridge Wells Kent
Project: Mini-morse computer communicator
Commended G. Cuttle (Project manager 50) Lynwood, 35 Mount Harmon Road Woking, Surrey
Project: Integrated Security system

GREATER LONDON

1st T. G. Wills-Sandford (Account manager 43) 25 Clancarty Road, London
Project: Neighbourhood Watch crime prevention
2nd Sara Clarke (Teacher trainee 28) 23 Wyndham Street, Putney, London
Project: North South race relations game: world dominion
3rd Mrs J. Blenkins (Research psychologist 36) 4 Branscombe Gardens Winchmore Hill London
Project: Hospital drugs trolley
Reserve J. R. Fader (Senior medical social worker 52) 12 Sherwood Road Hampton Hill, Middx
Project: Monitoring weights of premature babies
Reserve N. Rathwaraj (Scientific officer 35) 32 Capthorne Avenue, Rayners Lane, Harrow, Middx
Project: Patient care
Commended J. W. Saumarez-Smith (School boy 12) 28 Canonbury Place, London
Project: Liver donor
Commended N. de Bunsen (School boy 10) 46 Hamilton Park West, London
Project: Security system
Commended J. McDougall (Student 17) 11 Cleaver Square, London
Project: Doctors surgery data storage and retrieval
Commended Susan Rowlett (Teacher 31) 8 Byfield Road, Isleworth, Middx
Project: Library system for the partially sighted

Computer Appointments

MINI COMPUTER OPPORTUNITY

In expanding wholesaling company in London WC2. Cobol stock control & accounts system for 3 branches, 5 micros/WP.

£10,000 - £13,000 per annum

Send CV to:-

Managing Director,
1 Scottsgrove Road,
Chobham, Woking, Surrey.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING COMPUTING

The Department is expanding its computing facilities and integrated computer-based teaching, a project made possible by a generous grant from IBM. Applications for the following posts are invited from candidates with a good honours degree in Engineering, Mathematics, Physical Sciences or Computer Science.

Manager of Computing

The principle responsibility of the holder will be to supervise the development and running of the department's major computing systems and to provide a computing service for teaching and research. The manager will be closely involved in the development of the department's new computer-based teaching project.

A minimum of 10 years experience in practical computing and some managerial experience is required. Experience of interactive computing and an interest in the use of computers for teaching would be highly desirable.

The post is that of Computer Officer Grade I or II, depending on age and experience, with salaries in the range £10,710 to £15,085 for CO I and £9,425 to £12,545 for CO II. The post is a permanent one with initial appointment for 5 years.

Research Assistant

Applications are invited for 4 posts of Research Assistant. The principal duties will involve the development of the computer-based teaching system together with its appropriate range of applications packages and utilities.

A good honours degree, preferably with some postgraduate experience, and some experience of systems programming is essential; an interest in interactive computing and its use in teaching is highly desirable. The salary is in the range £6,315 to £9,425 depending on age and experience. The posts are tenable for 3 years with the possibility of reappointment for a further 2 years.

Further particulars and application forms may be obtained from the Secretary of the Faculty Board, Department of Engineering, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, CB2 1PZ, to whom applications must be sent by 13 April.

The leading international publisher of computer books is recruiting:

MANAGING DIRECTOR

£30,000 Plus

for new office in the U.K. to be located in London or major city.

Reporting to the California parent corporation, you will assume the exciting task of developing a high growth publishing company in an established and highly favorable market. You must be energetic, creative, enthusiastic, with excellent attention to detail, and have a proven track record in managing projects, preferably in a distribution field. Prior publishing experience would be an asset. No computer experience is required; we will train you in California.

SYBEX is considered one of the most successful and fastest growing companies in the USA, as well as several other countries, with a dynamic, professional, and growth-oriented management. Current offices are in Berkeley, Paris, Düsseldorf.

Send c.v. with current salary level promptly to:



SYBEX, Inc.
Attn: Personnel Manager
2944 Sixth Street
Berkeley, CA 94710
U.S.A.

SYSTEMS PROGRAMMERS A career development that's an education in itself

As a graduate with at least three years' solid systems programming experience on IBM systems, your technical skills go without saying.

But if you're articulate, energetic and ambitious, this could be your chance to join a major computer supplier in a stimulating teaching role.

Although some UK and overseas travel must be expected, you'll be based at our Education Centre in Sudbury, Middlesex - sharing your expertise with other like-minded professionals, while broadening your own skills in a demanding, up-to-the-minute environment.

After four years or so, you'll be ideally positioned to advance your career with IBM in a surprisingly diverse number of ways.

So, if you're a first class communicator, in your mid to late twenties, with an in-depth knowledge of one or more of the following: MVS, IMS, SNA, VM, VSE, RPG, then look forward to an excellent salary and benefits package, and the chance to develop, helping others do the same.

Please phone 01-9951441 ext. 4976 for an application form, or write to Sally-Anne Judge, Recruitment Officer, IBM United Kingdom Limited, 389 Chiswick High Road, London W4 4AL. Please quote reference: T/8055.

- 15,000 jobs in over 40 UK locations
- Two manufacturing plants
- Development laboratory near Winchester
- An equal opportunity employer
- £262 million exports in 1982
- £119 million invested in UK in 1982



In the optimisation of our current and future systems ... the most vital component would be you.

Our 100 million customers in over 100 countries make considerable demands on an already highly developed D.P. system - demands which we're delighted to say continue to increase. To help us plan the capacity and maintain the system performance essential to keeping us at the forefront of travel related services, we are now seeking a young professional with considerable drive and enthusiasm.

Your comprehension of the internal functioning of an IBM 3084Q and its interaction with other components would be put to the test in analysing the relationship between business trends and system capability. Liaising with vendors, you would make strong recommendations on senior management on hardware/software upgrading to maximise the cost efficiency and availability of D.P. resources.

With a strong MVS background and, ideally, familiarity with CICS, you

will probably already be involved in performance tuning/capacity planning. We would, however, consider you if you have a solid systems programming background and determination to move into this area. In either case, good interpersonal skills are essential.

A salary reflecting the seniority of the position will be supported by a range of benefits you would expect of a major international organisation including mortgage subsidy and relocation expenses to your Brighton base, where appropriate.

If you feel that you have the skills to perform this vital role within a young and truly fast-moving environment, please write with full CV to: Lynnette Lucy, Personnel Officer, Systems and Processing, American Express Europe Limited, Amex House, Edward Street, Brighton, Sussex BN1 2LP. Tel: (0273) 693555 ext. 5563.



A MOVE INTO CONSULTANCY

IBM

ANALYST/PROGRAMMERS

LONDON

You will have a programming background in either COBOL or PL/I with some exposure to on-line and database techniques. Analysis experience would be extremely advantageous however training may be given to those candidates with desire to succeed. This is an ideal opportunity to join a successful and thriving company who will develop your career to its optimum, while giving you the benefit of a variety of challenging projects.

£10,000 to £13,000

HONEYWELL LEVEL 64

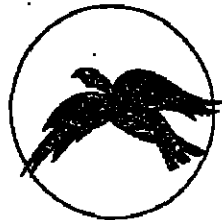
PROGRAMMERS, ANALYST PROGRAMMERS

LONDON

Leading International Consultancy seeks experienced LEVEL 64 staff with sound TDS skills to work on a Major Development Project. Staff with IDS2 exposure are particularly sought after. Future prospects are excellent and offer possibilities of International Travel.

to c. £15,000

Call: ALAN GREEN
or: MILTON NEWELL
01-404 4339
01-242 0076
(24 hours)



EMJAY

COMPUTER SERVICES
The Computer Specialists
Lonsdale Chambers
27 Chancery Lane, London WC2

Profit taking in equities

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, March 12. Dealings end, March 23. Contango Day, March 25. Settlement Day, April 2.

FT - ACTUARIES INDICES	
INDUSTRIAL GROUP	521.11 (526.11)
500 SHARE INDEX	569.70 (575.75)
EST EARNINGS YIELD	9.44% (9.34%)
DIVIDEND YIELD	4.17% (4.13%)
P.E. RATIO (NET)	13.05 (13.18)
ALL SHARE INDEX	524.10 (528.89)
DIVIDEND YIELD	4.33% (4.29%)

[illegible]

7.5	370	180	Sungai Besi	270	167	16.7
6.5	340	170	Tanjung	270	167	16.7
6.4	340	170	Penang	270	167	16.7
6.3	340	170	General Cons	270	167	16.7
6.2	340	170	Vazir Refs	270	167	16.7
6.1	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
6.0	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
5.9	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
5.8	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
5.7	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
5.6	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
5.5	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
5.4	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
5.3	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
5.2	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
5.1	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
5.0	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
4.9	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
4.8	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
4.7	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
4.6	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
4.5	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
4.4	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
4.3	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
4.2	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
4.1	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
4.0	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
3.9	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
3.8	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
3.7	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
3.6	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
3.5	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
3.4	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
3.3	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
3.2	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
3.1	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
3.0	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
2.9	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
2.8	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
2.7	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
2.6	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
2.5	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
2.4	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
2.3	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
2.2	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
2.1	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
2.0	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
1.9	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
1.8	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
1.7	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
1.6	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
1.5	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
1.4	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
1.3	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
1.2	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
1.1	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
1.0	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
0.9	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
0.8	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
0.7	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
0.6	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
0.5	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
0.4	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
0.3	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7
0.2	340	170	Wangsa	270	167	16.7

\$2.22	528	360	Global Nat Res	390		-2	..	..
\$1.76	118	44	Gulf Petroleum	116		+1	19.1	5.1
3.33	343	143	Imperial Gas	343		+	..	..
1.94	22	1	MCA Drilling	28		+	16.4	5.7
6.36	390	223	Lampco	39		-10	16.4	5.7
8.00	490	490	Dyn Oils	561		+	168	28.8
18.00	180	180	Continental Grp	184		+	4.4	3.7
50 1/4	20 1/2	20 1/2	Premier Cons	57 1/2		-7 1/2	..	..
2.16 1/8	484	365	Ranger Oil	590		..	..	..
36 1/2	36 1/2	36 1/2	Royal Dutch	134 1/2		-1 1/2	208	6.6
8.04	267	267	Shell Int'l	267		-1	37.4	8.6
7.11 1/2	27	17	Texas (L) Pet	23		-1	..	..
9.8	240	146	Tricontrol	213		+	12.0 b	5.6
4.4	96	39	TR Energy	49		..	..	..
28.6	719	434	Ultramar	719		-6	24.3	3.4

PROPERTY					
99	55	Allied Ldn	92	..	19
246	155	Alliant Ldn	246	..	89
111	93	Alpea	111	..	29
43	284	Aquid	43	..	21
126	75	Atlantic Met Cp	126	..	1
126	75	Atlantic Prop	126	..	86
126	72	British Ldn	124	..	18
129	95	Brixton Estate	124	..	6
157	130	Cap & Counties	157	..	4
200	200	Cardfield	200	..	3
625	480	Churchbury	635	..	21
90	39	Control Secs	90	..	43
98	47	Countryside New T	98	..	15
200	200	Countryside Bldgs	215	..	82

95	61	Expat-Tyza	85	7.1	8.4	1.3
100	50	Estates & Gen	88	7.7	3.6	-4.1
102	120	Est Gen Inv	75	-2	11.4	13.4
103	125	Est Gen Inv	76	3.6	5.4	1.8
109	100	Fls of Leeds	70	-8	1.1	-9.1
114	104	Greycoat City	152	-8	1.1	-9.1
116	104	Greycoat City	152	-8	1.1	-9.1
120	100	Hammerson	540	-10	21.4	31.4
408	374	Hastemere Ests	478	-4	11.4	2.4
53	34	Kent M. P	63	-4	11.4	2.4
268	268	Land Securities	268	-2	8.4	6.4
290	197	Land Securities	293	-11	9.7	2.7
343	255	Ldn & Prov Sh	273	-6	4.3	1.3
178	125	Ldn Shop	270	-6	6.8	2.8
178	125	Ldn Shop	270	-6	6.8	2.8
301	188	London Rids	289	-6	11.4	5.4

143	101	McKay Seas	143				
143 ¹	112	Marbath	138	13.8	1.1	1.3	
138	96	Marbrough	97				
106	66	Marier Estates	106	2.9	2.7	1.3	
280	94	Mounleith	280	17.9	3.0	3.3	
204	129	Municipal	204	1.1	1.1	1.1	
178	130	Municipal Prop	172	6.6	4.0	4.3	
178	130	Prop & Rever	214	5.0	2.9	3.3	
192	132	Prop Hides	194	5.3	2.6	2.9	
127	79	Prop Seas	122	4.2	2.2	2.5	
404	107	Rusha Prop	10 ¹	0.1	1.2	2.2	
282	194	Rosehaugh	282	4.1	1.2	1.6	
146	81	Rush & Tomkins	146	3.6	3.5	1.1	
92	74	Scot Mel Props	90	5.0	5.2	2.1	
132	88	Slough Eats	124	3.1	4.1	1.1	

157	10	Standard	329	..	6.8	2.1	2.2
338	245	Guar	54	1-1/2	1.3	2.4	2.3
338	245	Stock Conv	525	..	6.8	2.1	2.2
110	30	Stockley	70	..	0.7	3.2	3.2
28	14	Webb J	22	..	0.7	3.2	3.2
PLANTATIONS							
89	52	Barlow Hidge	89	..	6.3	7.1	7.1
104	40	Camellia Ind	104	..	9.7	1.8	1.8
975	405	Castlefield	975	..	20.0	2.0	2.0
118	51	Corn Plant	96	..	2.6	2.0	2.0
112	69	Forelake	226	..	2.6	2.0	2.0
112	69	Highland & Low	96	+	6.2	6.6	6.6
675	150	Hongkong	200	..	..	..	..
270	166	MacLeod Russell	270	..	9.6	3.5	3.5
453	166	MacLeod Russell	270	..	12.0	6.4	6.4

88	60	Majestic	36	4.7	1.3
480	280	Moran	86	1.4	1.1
91	30	Rover Evans Inv	78	1.1	1.5
MISCELLANEOUS					
42	35 $\frac{1}{2}$	Exter Wtr 3.54	424	500	13.0
91	25	Gt Ntna Etr	570	150	2.8
72	70	Millford Docks	45	-2	0.1
82	70 $\frac{1}{2}$	Nesco Inv	51	10	12.3
42	30 $\frac{1}{2}$	Sunderland Wtr	437	500	13.5
UNLISTED SECURITIES					
475	291 $\frac{1}{2}$	Art Cay	428	8.0	1.9
143	53	Barkley Exp	121	-2	.8

[illegible]

* Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corporate dividend. d Interim payment passed. e Price at suspension. f Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. g Bid company. h Pre-merger figures. i Forecast earnings. j Capital distribution. k Ex rights. l Ex scrip or share option. m Tax free. n Price adjusted for late dealings.

significant price.

RECENT ISSUES		Class
7	Assoc Energy 5p Ord (182a)	7
4	Brist Inv £1 Ord (a)	7
4	CML Microsystems (130a)	
8	Daimsey Inc Com Stk \$0.05	
2	Diamonds Electrical 25p Ord (162a)	
2	Dewey Warden Holdings 10p Ord (a)	
5	Grosvener Square 10p Ord (91a)	96
3	Mensara 10p Ord (95)	
3	Horne Robert Group 20p Ord	91
6	Do "A" NV (A) 15p per unit a	92
6	Kent L 5p Ord (52a)	42
6	Northwood Investments 5p Ord (60a)	

7	Norfin Electronics 5p Ord (116a)	190
7	Radio Clyde 25p Ord NV (60a)	190
7	Sangers Photographic 10p Ord (23a)	190
7	Union 25p Ord (102a)	228
7	Valian Pensions Inst 5p Ord (110a)	228
7	Welpac 10p Ord (10a)	43
7	XYLLYX 10p Ord (50a)	43
7	Issue price in parentheses a Unlisted Securities, * by tender.	

هكذا من الأصل

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Prime pressure on sterling and gilts

American developments weighed heavily on the gilt market yesterday, as US prime rates rose by half a point across the board, the first increase since last August. Sterling took part of the strain, dropping at one stage through \$1.44, but gilt-edged prices sagged nevertheless. Shorts lost a quarter and longs closed down around a half. The American long bond traded some half a point easier in New York during the morning.

The crude market reaction to the jump in US interest rates is to depict it as part of a duel of Volcker v Reagan roadshow in which an intransigent Federal Reserve Board chairman is currently outgunning a vote-sensitive President. This is an oversimplification. As pointed out here last week, the regular monetary indicators have been throwing out signals which contradict readings provided by "real" economy data: a slowdown, for example, in M1 countered by a sharp rise in industrial production and housing starts.

On the face of it, the pick-up in the real economy ought to show through in a sharp rise in demand for credit, and there have been signs of this in recent weeks, with banks' reserves rising sharply. But the Fed funds rate has also been edging ahead, indicating that although the Fed has been willing to supply credit, it has refused to flood the market. It prefers a delicate balancing act.

In this context, increases in prime rates is important because they signal the pressure on credit. They are likely to have a sharp effect on expectations. These may well take a further jolt later in the week when GNP figures for the first quarter and February consumer prices are published. The market expects that the first quarter figure will show an annualized rise of some 6 per cent - certainly no indication that the economy is slowing down - while the Consumer Price Index may also suggest that US inflation is creeping up again.

In the gilt market yesterday opinion on the significance of the US prime rates rise was divided. Despite the fall in the market, the old argument about "decoupling" - the UK can survive a rise in US rates - was heard again, and it received a certain endorsement from hard facts in the market place. Stock that was sold was hard to buy back again.

But more bearish noises could also be heard, notably from brokers Phillips and Drew. They draw a sharp distinction between the movement in UK rates which, they suggest, owes much to political inspiration; and the USA, where the Fed is making a series of preemptive moves to help sustain the dollar.

Meanwhile, the Bank of England sits quietly in the background, probably congratulating itself on staying out of the market last Friday, when conditions for a new tap looked so attractive. Nevertheless, although the Bank avoided the possible debacle of a stranded tap, immediately after a well-received Budget, it is a reasonable assumption that, sooner or later, the Government Broker will return to the market, in selling conditions which seem more likely to worsen than to improve.

One way out for the authorities, if they find themselves obliged to sell more debt, might be to evade the interest rate issue altogether by issuing deep discounted stock, with built-in capital gains, on dummy interest rates which are only tenuously linked to the US rate spiral.

Morgan Grenfell names its price

Morgan Grenfell, one of our top two merchant banks, has had another very profitable year. Disclosed profits after transfers to hidden reserves are up by a quarter to £16.5m. Investment management had a very successful year. Corporate finance has done particularly well with capital issues a record both by number and value. Last year, Morgan Grenfell underwrote about one quarter by value of

all rights issues in the domestic equity market.

Arguably, MG is just the kind of innovative and thrusting merchant bank which should be forming the nucleus of the new breed of investment banking and securities trading firms needed to keep the British flag flying against the big American and Japanese brokerage houses. Yet with the exception of S H Warburg, the independent merchant banks have so far not figured in the great securities industry shake-up.

The reason is simple enough. The asking prices for brokers and jobbers are being bid up too far. Not even Morgan Grenfell can compete in a sellers' market against Barclays Bank which recently tied in with the jobbers Wedd Durlacher and the brokers de Zoete & Bevan, nor against County Bank and Samuel Montagu, two merchant banks with the resources of joint stock banks behind them.

Is Morgan Grenfell disappointed at not getting a slice of Wedd Durlacher? (they did talk) according to Lord Catto, chairman of Morgan Grenfell Holdings, "not at that price." He seemed to have a fair idea what the price was (estimates suggest that Barclay's deal valued Wedd at £100m upwards), the amount of goodwill was clearly large.

Morgan Grenfell's strategy in the present climate is to develop as a market-maker and distributor of all fixed interest securities which it issues or is likely to issue, as well as becoming a trader in the gilt market. A lesser priority, but still a possibility is trading in the equity market.

Recent moves to strengthen the bank's capability in the secondary Eurobond market is part of this thrust. As to how the rest of the strategy is put into effect, Morgan Grenfell claims to be still making up its mind.

BR puts Sealink on the slipway

Meanwhile, Morgan Grenfell was in action on another front yesterday, when, in its capacity as adviser to British Rail, it formally started the auction for Sealink, the latest candidate in the Government's privatization programme.

The bank last night wrote to more than 30 potential bidders setting out the terms on which British Rail's ferry and harbour business will be sold, and asking for firm displays of interest within the next 14 days. British Rail will then draw up a shortlist and provide those companies on it with a confidential memorandum about Sealink's profitability and financial state of health.

Trafalgar House, P & O, Sea Containers and European Ferries (whose bid for Sealink was blocked by the Monopolies Commission three years ago) have all expressed interest in buying Sealink. A consortium consisting of the National Freight Consortium - itself denationalized not so long ago - and the management of Sealink is also interested. It promises to be a lively auction.

Yesterday's announcement disclosed that Sealink made a profit before interest and tax last year of £12.8m, a considerable improvement on the previous year's £2.9m. Turnover was up from £232.3m to £264.8m. These figures are not that meaningful however, given the huge amount of debt in Sealink's balance sheet. Interest payments in 1982 amounted to £9.3m, enough to turn Sealink's pre-tax profit into an overall loss.

BR did say, however last night that the amount of debt in the balance sheet, which includes £48.5m owed to British Rail on intercompany account and £22m of unsecured loan stock, would be part of the negotiations with would-be bidders. If any of the debt were to be written off, it would have a significant impact on what bidders might be prepared to pay for Sealink.

Market estimates in the past have put the value at between £70m and £100m.

P & O surprises market with £23m increase in profits

By William Kay, City Editor

The stock market was thrown yesterday by Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's unheralded decision to release its annual results two months earlier than expected. The deferred stock shot up from 306p to 314p in response to "excellent" profits. But it quickly fell - on the fears that the figures might be strong enough in themselves to ward off a revived takeover bid from Trafalgar House - which in any event is not certain.

Mr Jeffrey Sterling, P & O chairman, explained that the announcement had been brought forward with Trafalgar in mind. Last week the Department of Trade and Industry published a report by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission which concluded

that such a merger "may not be expected to operate against the public interest". Mr Sterling said: "With the possibility of a bid on the sidelines we want to make certain we had sufficient information and ammunition if it was needed."

P & O's profit before tax has jumped from £35.5m in 1982 to £58.6m last year. Total external revenue was up from £1,222m to £1,314m. Operating costs rose more slowly, from £1,165m to £1,234m. Profits were also boosted by a decline of nearly 50m in interest charges, to £32.8m.

At the after-tax level, there has been a fall of more than £11m in extraordinary items, to £8.5m. Attributable profit has leapt from £791,000 to £31m, leaving earnings per unit of

stock more than doubled, from 14p to 28.2p. The final dividend is 8.5p, making an increase of 25 per cent for the year as a whole. The final payment will be made on May 10, compared with July 1 last year.

The improvement in profits has been achieved despite some continuing weaknesses. Ferries moved from breakeven into a £600,000 loss. Associates' bulk shipping profits fell from £11.3m to £5.5m.

There has been a dramatic fall in P & O's debt-equity ratio, thanks largely to Falco, the oil trading operation which Mr Sterling is thinking of selling.

A hidden windfall has come from an actuarial revaluation of the group pension fund. This

has produced a substantial surplus, and there is a £3m credit back to the company for 1982, followed by £4m in 1983 and subsequently.

City analysts see nothing but continued strength in the good sectors, and recovery in the poor. Predictions of 1984 pretax profits were immediately revised to the between £75m and £80m, and as much as £100m next year, when the new Royal Princess cruise ship becomes operational.

Such figures would make P & O a less digestible prospect for Trafalgar, whose profits are unofficially forecast at £100m for the year to end September.

To keep up the pressure, P & O is putting out its annual report on Friday.

Profit fall hits Mirror flotation

By Philip Robinson

The £100m Stock Exchange flotation of Mirror Group Newspapers has been hit by disappointing profit figures, extensive rewriters of the prospectus and the unresolved dispute on the future of the lucrative pension fund.

MGN should have been ready to sell its shares to the public on April 19. It now looks increasingly likely that it will only just meet the flotation deadline set by its parent company, Reed International.

Reed International do not rule out their books for a fortnight, for the 12 months to the end of March, but indications emerging from MGN are that losses from *Sunday Life* have grown from £2m to £3m, and that *Sunday People* has lost between £1.8m and £2m.

These would be wiped out by the profits of the *Sunday Mirror* and *Daily Mirror*, which has just increased its cover price for the second time in three months.

The *Mirror* sisters are expected to earn profits of £6m, which together with the profitable *Scottish Daily Record* and *Sunday Mail* could turn in maybe an overall MGN profit of £4m.

This is much lower than the 1982 MGN profits figure of £8m, and way below the 1981 record of £12m. MGN is due to go public after the £1 billion stock market debut in mid-May. Reed International, anxious to see the MGN for some time, took advantage of the *Mirror*'s 8 per cent stake in Reuters, worth roughly £70m, to sell it off.

Significantly, Reed was prepared to include Reuters value in the *Mirror* balance sheet before a firm price had been worked out. Now it will have the benefit of an exact value to underpin the offer price.

Mr Ken Moreton, Reed's financial director, said yesterday: "We are still on our original target set last year, and that was to float during the first half of this year."

Mr Moreton added: "The change of day has nothing to do with the figures. We never published a flotation day and we do not reveal our figures before we publish them to the Stock Exchange."

The delay is a setback for Mr Clive Thornton, MGN's chairman, who wanted to bring the same new approach to newspapers as he did to building societies when he was chairman of Abbey National.

He was unavailable for comment yesterday, but is known to be anxious to popularize the share flotation to the extent of giving the shares away as prize in the *Mirror* bingo competition and publishing a copy of the prospectus in all *Mirror* newspapers.

Still unresolved is how MGN, employing 600 journalists, will protect its editorial independence and political stance in the event of a takeover bid.

Terms have yet to be agreed on the split of the Reed International pension fund, with MGN arguing for a more than 50-50 split.

Criticism is now being voiced within MGN of the role played by Lazard Brothers, the merchant bank brought in to advise

Exchange draws up answer to EEC law

By Philip Robinson

Civil servants and Stock Exchange officials appear to have worked out a way to make legally enforceable EEC directives compatible with the exchange's self-regulatory rules on the listing of securities.

The solution is now believed to be with the Attorney-General, who is expected to rule within a week on whether he thinks the compromise would be acceptable to Brussels.

The exchange's desire to keep its rules out of the statute books wherever possible is quite separate from the possibility of asking for legislation to protect investors from a "free for all" after negotiated commissions are introduced.

Problems arose last year when three EEC directives, dealing with minimum standards required for the public listing of securities, should have been introduced in Britain.



Sir Nicholas Goodison

The department of Trade and Industry was about to make the Stock Exchange, chaired by Sir Nicholas Goodison, the competent authority for the directives - allowing them to police new listings on a self-regulatory basis - when an international court ruled that the directive needed legal backing.

United Biscuits bond

United Biscuits intends to offer for subscription - through its subsidiary, UB Finance BV - a £25m bond issue, due 1989, together with warrants to subscribe for 17.5 million shares of 25p each in UB.

The bonds and warrants are being offered in units of £1,000 principal amount of bonds and 700 warrants, each of which entitles the holder to subscribe for one UB share.

The issue price of each unit is £1,000, of which £900 is in respect of the bonds and £100 for the warrants.

These bonds will be guaranteed by UB and will carry a yearly coupon of 8 1/2 per cent. Each warrant will entitle the holder to subscribe for one ordinary share at an exercise price of 155p. The warrants will be exercisable at any time from April 30, 1984 to March 31, 1989.

Massachusetts' move owes much to a strong lobbying by British companies and Government. Last weekend's decision came immediately after a meeting between the state's Trade Commission and representatives of the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Massachusetts officials were told that the British would not participate in a second investment conference unless unitary taxation of foreign companies was dropped.

Shares slip from peak

The equity market passed for breath yesterday, after last week's record-breaking run, with share prices losing ground as profit-taking developed.

Prices closed at their low for the day, as well as Wall Street opened sharply down, by the decision of Continental Illinois Bank to raise its prime rate by a half per cent to 11 1/2 per cent. This move by the American banks had been widely predicted in London after increased pressure on United States interest rates recently. As a result, the FT Index fell by 11.2 to 883.1.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index: 1109.7 down 18.8	High: 1125.9; Low: 1109.7
FT Index: 883.1 down 11.2	FT All Share: 524.10 down 4.79
FT AII Share: 524.10 down 4.79	Argentine: 31.520
Datamark USM Leaders Index: 111.39 down 0.2	New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average: (latest) 1173.16 down 11.2
Nikkei Dow Jones Index: 10,479.80 up 8.16	Hongkong: Hang Seng Index: 1170.3 up 39.66
Amsterdam: 168.9 down 2.0	Sydney: AG Index: 738.8 up 4.8
Zurich: Commerzbank Index: 1032.2 down 6.7	Brussels: General Index: 145.02 up 0.37
Paris: CAC Index: 162.6 up 1.3	Zurich: SBA General: 308.0 down 1.1

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE	
Sterling: \$1.4445 down 25pts	Index: 80.0 down 0.1
DM: 3.7975 up 0.0075	Fr: 11.6850 down 0.0075
Yen: 326.00 down 1.0	Dollar: 127.2 up 0.5
DM: 2.6275 up 0.0015	NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling: \$1.4930	Dollar: DM 2.8517
ECU: 0.587588	INTERNATIONAL
SDR: 0.731481	

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:	
Bank base rates: 8%	Finance houses: base rate 9%
Discount market: loans week fixed 9%	3 month interbank: 8% - 8 1/2%
Euro-currency rates:	3 month dollar: 10 1/4% - 10 1/2%
3 month DM: 5% - 5 1/2%	3 month Fr: 15% - 15 1/2%
US rates:	Bank prime rate: 11-11.50
Fed funds: 10	Treasury long bond: 9 1/2% - 9 5/8%
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period 1983-1984: 9.75% - 1983 inclusive: 9.75 per cent.	

Abridged Particulars

Application will be made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for the grant of permission to deal in the Ordinary Shares of North Sea & General Oil Investments PLC in the Unlisted Securities Market. It is emphasised that no application has been or is to be made for these securities to be admitted to listing. This advertisement does not constitute an offer or invitation to subscribe for or purchase shares.

North Sea & General Oil Investments PLC

(Registered in England No. 897608)

(Incorporating Dawsea PLC)

OFFER FOR SALE

by

Hambros Bank Limited

and

Samuel Montagu & Co. Limited

of

10,000,000 Ordinary Shares of £1 each at 125p per share payable in full on application

SHARE CAPITAL

Authorised	Issued and now being issued fully paid
£30,000,000	£26,100,000
Ordinary Shares of £1 each	

The Group is engaged in exploration for, and production of, oil and gas in the North Sea. The Group has interests in three consortia which have North Sea Licences for blocks North of 62° latitude, in the Viking Graben and in the Southern North Sea. One discovery of significance to the Group, provisionally known as the Emerald Field, is in the course of appraisal. The Group also has a 0.25 per cent interest in the Forties Field. Full details of North Sea & General Oil Investments PLC and of this Offer for Sale, together with an Application Form, are contained in the Prospectus (on the terms of which alone applications will be considered) copies of which may be obtained from:-

Hambros Bank Limited,
41 Bishopsgate,
London, EC2P 2AA.

Samuel Montagu & Co. Limited,
114 Old Broad Street,
London, EC2P 2HY.

Rowe & Pitman,
City-Gate House, 39-45 Finsbury Square,
London, EC2A 1JA.

Laurence, Prust & Co.,
Basildon House, 7-11 Moorgate,
London, EC2R 6AH.

and from the following branches of
National Westminster Bank PLC
New Issues Department, PO Box 79,
2 Princes Street, London, EC2P 2BD.
Tel: 01-638 9181

Colmore Centre, 103 Colmore Row, Birmingham, B3 3NS
80 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 3DZ 8 Park Row, Leeds, LS1 1QS
14 Blythswood Square, Glasgow, G2 4AQ
32 Corn Street, Bristol, BS99 7UG
55 King Street, Manchester, M60 2DB

Particulars of the Company are available in the Extra Statistical Services. The Application List for the shares now offered for sale will open at 10.00am on Friday, 23rd March, 1984 and may be closed at any time thereafter.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Bid to avert Argentine debt crisis

Hopes of avoiding a huge Argentinian debt crisis, now rest on an eleventh hour meeting next week between the International Bank Advisory Committee and Argentinian economic minister Senator Bernardo Grinspun at the seaside resort of Punta del Este.

The city is host to this year's annual meeting of the Washington-based Inter-American Development Bank. Top of the agenda will be Argentina's delicate debt position.

At present, Argentina is \$2.7 billion in arrears on interest payments. If these are not reduced by March 31, Argentina will be more than 90 days in arrears forcing US banks to drastically cut their first quarter profit figures.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am \$392.15 pm \$393.80
close \$394.25-\$394.75 (£273.25-274.75)
New York (latest): \$394.00
Kruggerand (per coin):
406-407.50 (£281.25-282.25)
Sovereigns (new):
\$92-93 (£63.75-64.50)
Excludes VAT

Bassett bolsters defence

By Jonathan Clare

Bassett Foods, maker of the famous liquorice allsorts, has forecast first-half profits of £1.5m, against £1.024m to reinforce its rejection of the all-share bid from Avana Group, the Cardiff-based food company.

But the big institutional

shareholders, which include M & G Recovery, Norwich Union and Pearl Assurance are still sitting on the fence ahead of Friday's closing date.

Bassett's share yesterday were 145p, little changed on the forecast, against the 152p value of the Avana offer.

Austerity measures would hurt UK businesses

Nigeria set to abandon projects

From John Lawless, Lagos

The Nigerian Government is likely to abandon all those projects which may cost more than £25m to complete.

The impact of such a move will be felt hard by British companies. But this could also reduce the high risk of the Export Credits Guarantee Department in the market. Any projects cancelled will be removed from its total exposure figure.

The department has slipped into the red for the first time this year, and it knows that its financial situation would further deteriorate if Nigeria's economy is not propped up by a standby credit from the International Monetary Fund and a complementary refinancing deal of its massive trade debts.

Nigeria's Finance Minister, Dr Onaolapo Soyoke, has ordered a review of major projects knowing that when he meets IMF officials in about three weeks' time in Lagos, he has to show that state and federal governments' expenditure is being curtailed. Nigeria is seeking up to \$3 billion from the IMF and is fighting against any devaluation of the Naira.

Dr Soyoke has asked the chairman of Cadbury's in Nigeria, Dr Gamaliel Onosode, to distinguish between "core

projects, which have an acceptable rate of return, and the money-wasters.

Foreign companies, which at first fought those under review would be projects costing more than £25m in total, are now extremely worried about which substantial schemes close to completion may now be scrapped.

Foreign contractors are already faced with desperate shortages of materials, because foreign exchange controls have reduced imports of goods and material.

Britain's Balfour Beatty, for example, has a \$30m contract to build market stalls in the town of Bauchi. It has yet to start work.

Shares slip on profit-taking

The market was in a reflective mood yesterday in the wake of last week's record-breaking run with shares prices losing ground as investors decided to cream off some of their vast profits.

After the 54-point rise of the past five trading days, the FT index closed 11.2 down at 883.1, while the FT-SE 100 fell 18.8 to 1109.7.

The decision by the Continental Illinois Bank to raise its prime rate by 1/2 a percentage point to 11 1/2 per cent came as no real surprise, but still had a dampening effect on sentiment, helped by Wall Street tumbling nearly 12.0 in the first hour's trading.

However, dealers described the undertone as firm with the jobbers still apparently short of stock among many of the stocks which have led the market higher in recent weeks.

Gilt recovered earlier falls of up to £12 to close mostly unchanged on the day, despite the news of higher interest rates in the US. On the foreign exchange, the pound spent a lacklustre day still overshadowed by support for the dollar.

Systems Reliability exceeded expectations in first-time dealings after the offer for sale by broker Phillips & Drew for 2 million shares was more than 90 times oversubscribed, attracting a total of £685m. The shares, offered at 270p each, opened at 420p before advancing on renewed institutional

support to 450p - a massive premium of 180p.

The big high street clearing banks were sent reeling by suggestions of an increased tax load after the Chancellor's decision on leasing in last week's Budget. But hints that Midland Bank's dividend needed to be reduced was denied by the company. Midland closed 15p lower at 382p, while Barclays lost 20p at 519p, National Westminster 15p at 649p and Lloyds 18p at 579p.

Leading industrials were all marked lower with few exceptions as jobbers tried to acquire

Queens Meats Houses, the provincial hotel group, was unchanged yesterday at 45p despite the appearance of the Kuwait Investment Office as a 5.4 per cent shareholder. Two hotel companies where it was a significant shareholder, Glencairn and Prince of Wales, have fallen to takeover bids this year. Is the secretive KIO now expecting a bidder to pounce on fast-growing QMH?

New stock, Allied-Lyons lost 4p to 175p, BOC Group 3p to 285p, Beecham Group 7p to 331p, Blue Circle 7p to 438p, Bowater 3p to 274p, Fisons 5p to 778p, GEC 6p to 204p, Glaxo 25p to 850, Grand Metropolitan

4p to 334p, GKN 4p to 209p, Hawker Siddeley 4p to 410p, ICI 4p to 612p, Plessey 8p to 242p, TI Group 6p to 284p, Tate & Lyle 5p to 403p and Unilever 5p to 935p.

The expected recovery in the life insurance sector ran out of steam with investors still worried by the tax problems. Attempts at an early rally only met with renewed selling. Britannic slipped 2d to 436p, Equity & Law 7p to 710, Legal & General 7p to 475p, London Assurance 8p to 729p, Prudential Corp 10p to 433p and Sun Life 3p to 583p. Only Refuge AssuranceUp3p to 431p and Hambro Life unchanged at 398p resisted the trend.

The insurance composites were also a dull market and closed usually a few pence below their opening levels. Commercial Union dipped 3p to 184p, General Accident 4p to 496p, Guardian Royal Exchange 2p to 448p and Minister Assets 3p to 128p.

Sedgwick Group, the largest broker in the Lloyd's of London insurance market, has agreed to pay the State Electricity Commission of Victoria A\$32m (£22m) to settle claims relating to last year's bush fires in Australia. The compromise settlement was agreed in the High Court after two months of

negotiations. SECV's insurance underwriters originally claimed compensation of A\$110m (£36m) because Sedgwick provided insufficient information to them about the risk involved. Sedgwick said yesterday that the reduced settlement figure reflected the complexity of the case. The shares rose 4p to 243p.

Epicure Holdings was also unchanged, at 37 1/2, despite a £150,000 decline to £552,000 in interim profits. But Mr Reginald Brealey, chairman, is increasing the interim dividend from the equivalent of 0.624p a share to 0.78p.

Hartons' acquisition of Gardom & Lock, the manufacturer of electric shower units, for a total outlay of £320,000 looks to be good news. The brokers de Zoete & Bevan describes the acquisition as significant, and it expects Gardom to make an immediate contribution of £100,000 in the first full year, against a loss of £34,000 last year. Hartons, quoted on the LSE, improved 1/2p to 34p.

He blames higher interest charges for the setback and says year's profits should be "no less" than last year's £1,072,000. Borrowings are being cut "in preparation for some great

things for the company by way of expansion".

Last month Epicure which own a 150-year lease on one of the property sites at Piccadilly Circus.

Mr David Lewis and Mr Neil Davis, who built up the Cavendish Land property group in the 1970s before selling their shareholding in Hampton Trust and now have about 25.5 per cent. The shares were unchanged at 31 1/2p.

The Michael Page Partnership has comfortably exceeded the £515,000 profits forecast it made when it came to the Unlisted Securities Market last November. The executive recruitment consultancy and finance company made £563,000 against £218,000 in 1983. The shares were up 12p at 178p on the results against the 90p placing price.

Mr Swarj Paul's Caparo Investments has stepped up its stake in beleaguered Brockhouse, the engineering, transport and materials handling company, with the purchase of an extra 275,000 at 42p a share. This takes Caparo's entire holding up to 3.28 million shares (19 per cent) of the total.

Only last week Evered, the Arab-backed specialist metals group, launched a £7.3m bid for

Brockhouse on the basis of four of its own shares for every 10 Brockhouse, or 38p in cash.

Evered has already claimed it speaks for 11 per cent of the shares in Brockhouse owned by overseas investment company Oceanside Investments. Caparo has already stated it will stand in the market and bid 42p a share for Brockhouse shares. Brockhouse closed 1/2p higher at 43 1/2p, while Caparo lost 1p at 47p.

Danese Investment Trust capital shares were unchanged at 7 1/2p and the income shares unchanged at 55 1/2p after the trustees of the Leinster Private Hire Pension Scheme announced it had increased its stake in the company. It now owns a total of 1.6 million capital shares, or 24 per cent of the total.

Gold shares lacked direction with the bullion price virtually unchanged in London at \$394.50, having been \$1.85 lower earlier in the day. Most of the leading producers lost ground first thing, but managed to sport small gains by the close. Among the heavyweights, Am Gold lost 5 1/2 to \$127 1/2, Kinross 5 1/2 to \$29 1/2 and Blythe 5 1/2 to \$15. But there were gains in Randbates 5 1/2 to \$163 1/2 and St Helena 5 1/2 to \$39 1/2.

Equity turnover on March 16 was £557.757m (27,932 bargains). British and Irish shares traded totalled 274.8 million. Gilt bargains amounted to 3,621.

Intervision seeks finance for US joint venture

By Jonathan Clare

Intervision Video (Holdings) is to ask its shareholders for £1m net to finance the world-wide joint video leasing venture it set up with CBS, the US communications group.

The company, which once included Mr John Bentley's Yelverton among its shareholders, is quoted on the Unlisted Securities Market and yesterday gave its shareholders advance warning of the rights issue "to prevent leaks".

About a dozen of its big institutional shareholders were told about the rights issue yesterday, with a formal statement likely before the end of the week.

Mr Bev Ripley, the managing director, said: "The joint leasing operation with CBS is an enormous venture and we need sufficient funds. We need a big cheque book."

Yelverton sold its 5.9 per cent stake to institutional buyers last month. Intervision is quoted on a strong institutional interest in its shares to strengthen its hand if there is a bid.

The rights issue will be made to holders of both the ordinary shares and of the 7 per cent preference shares. Intervision's share price fell 1p to 28p on the announcement.

WALL STREET

Prime rate rise hits Dow

New York (AP-Dow Jones) - stocks were broadly lower yesterday morning on news of a widespread increase in the prime rate to 11.5 per cent. The Dow Jones industrial average was down about 15 points to below 1,169.

Declining issues were 5-to-1 ahead of advances and in active trading.

International Business Machines was down 1 at 112 1/2; General Motors down 1 1/2 to 67 1/2; Teledyne down 2 at 168 1/2.

Texas Instruments down 1 1/2 to 132 1/2; Digital Equipment off 1 1/2 to 91 1/2; Eastman Kodak off 1 at 67 1/2; Barrington off 1/2 at 48 1/2; and Sears Roebuck off 1/2 at 33 1/2.

Gulf Corp was 7 1/2 off 1/2; AMR 3 1/2 off 1/2; Monsanto 1 1/2 off 1/2; ACF Industries 4 1/2 off 1/2; Consolidated Foods 4 1/2 off 1/2; Ford 4 1/2 off 1/2; Express 3 1/2 off 1/2; McDonnell Douglas 5 1/2 off 1/2; and Superior Oil 3 1/2 unchanged.

Magnum Opus.

A golden monogram set into a fluted radiator, the discreet badge of a Daimler is acknowledged as a symbol of automotive excellence the world over.

An unmistakable hall-mark of supreme craftsmanship and effortless performance, where the luxury of comfort is unquestionably allied to the luxury of speed.

Today's Daimler 4.2 and 12 cylinder Daimler 'Double-Six' offer a range of appointments and finishings that are simply incomparable.

Furnished throughout in finest leather, polished Asian burr-walnut veneer and deep-pile carpeting, the cars are simply accommodating.

A host of refinements all minister effortlessly to one's comfort and safety: electrically height adjustable front seats; electric remote-control door mirrors, aerial, windows, centre locking and sunroof; rear head rests, reading lamps and inertia reel safety belts.



A digital trip computer (optional, at no extra cost) provides a continuous visual check on average speed, fuel consumption, elapsed mileage and the time.

The centre console has been ergonomically

designed. All instrumentation is sensibly placed. All vital controls are directly to hand, reassuringly positive.

Naturally, the gearbox is automatic. And there is now cruise control.

A fully automatic air-conditioning system provides the perfect ambience for driving.

And there's a four-speaker electronic stereo radio/cassette to provide perfect in-car entertainment.

These beautiful cars are further distinguished by Daimler 'D' badges on the wings, a coachline that enhances the chromium side mouldings and unique spoked alloy wheels.

As befits cars of such style and pedigree, they are the preserve of the true connoisseur.

A single test-drive is all one needs to declare a Daimler a masterpiece.

Consult your Daimler specialist for an appointment to drive.

Daimler

Daimler 4.2 £21,952.00, Daimler Double-Six £24,992.00. Prices based upon manufacturer's RRP and correct at time of going to press, include front seat belts, car tax and VAT. (Delivery, number plates and road tax extra.)



FOREIGN EXCHANGES

The increases in US bank prime rates to 11 1/2 per cent from 11 per cent including both Citibank and Chase Manhattan, were fully discounted on foreign exchange markets.

The news had hardly any impact on the dollar which was trading below its best but still showing gains at the expense of other leading currencies.

Sterling, which had been looking quite good against leading currencies like the Deutschmark, faced a little nervous selling as operators took account of the widening differentials between British and American interest rates.

The Deutschmark, which at one stage was nearly 1 1/2 pence lower in sterling terms, ended the session ahead at 3.7910 (3.7975) against the dollar. The pound fell 25 points at 1.4445.

Deales said the prime rate increases had been widely predicted by analysts, and more notice was taken of the latest US current account statistics revealing a quarterly fall of about \$15.29 billion.

Sterling's effective exchange index in the meantime, ended the day lower at 80.8 after 80.5 overnight, and after 81.0 at the opening calculation.

MONEY MARKETS

Discount houses again faced an acutely tight money situation as the Bank of England announced another hefty shortage of about £650m. With £2.2 billion of bills already tied up in 'repos' with the Bank of England, there were clearly going to be problems in finding sufficient fresh paper to pass on to the authorities to help removal of the shortage.

For the third day in succession, the Bank took the unusual step of mounting an early operation at 10am.

At this stage it bought outright £106m of bills at established intervention rates.

At lunchtime, the Bank included £420m purchase and resale agreements and bought outright a further £125m of bills.

This lifted the total of bills awaiting repurchase by the Bank to £2.625 billion. Later the Bank bought a further £11m of bills outright.

Interbank rates held at 8 7/8-3 1/4 per cent through the morning, then eased to 8 3/4-11 1/16 per cent at lunchtime.

The rate widened out to 8 3/4-1 1/2 per cent by mid-afternoon. But late trading saw a sharp firming to 11-9 per cent before 10 per cent at the close.



Allied Irish Banks Limited

announce that with effect from close of business on 19th March 1984 its Base Rate is reduced from 9% to 8 1/4% p.a.

Head Office - Britain: 64-66 Coleman Street London EC2R 5AL

RACING: CECIL WILL HAVE TO FIND REPLACEMENT FOR PIGGOTT ON PRINCIPAL 2000 GUINEAS HOPE

Cauten stands by to ride for Wildenstein

By Michael Seely

Lester Piggott's row with Daniel Wildenstein last autumn may have been the last time the champion jockey will ride on the 2000 Guineas at Newmarket in May. Henry Cecil said yesterday: "Although Piggott will be my stable jockey again, I shall have to look elsewhere for Mr Wildenstein's horses."

"I have asked Steve Cauten and Walter Swinburn to stand by, although I haven't a second claim on either. But I'm not worried as I have seen to it that I have the right horses. Swinburn, of course, rode All Along instead of Piggott in her brilliant autumn campaign."

Vacarne is the colt who cost Piggott a five-day suspension for careless riding after passing the post in the Richmond Stakes at Goodwood. Vacarne was impressive that afternoon and was earlier when winning the Erol Stakes at Ascot July meeting, by six lengths in a fast time. But he then looked a trifle sluggish in his Hill Road Stakes victory and was even more disappointing when third to Craig-an-Sgor in the Middle Park Stakes.

"The horse never came back after Goodwood," the four-time champion trainer said. "He never worked properly again. When Vacarne is at his best, he's like a quail. He fizzles when you set him alight." Vacarne has wintered well and the trainer plans to use the Greenham Stakes at Newbury on April 14 as the three-year-old's classic preliminary.

Cecil has a strong hand for the first of the colts' classics. Apart from Vacarne, Keen, Defeating Dancer, Condillac and Que Marido all have obvious potential. A well-grown full brother to Keen and Dancer, Keen won the Granville Stakes at Ascot in good style last July for his owner-breeder, Lord Howard de Walden.

Defeating Dancer was a fast two-year-old who won four of his first five races for Shaheen, including the Windsor Castle Stakes at Ascot. "Defeating Dancer should stay a mile this season. If he doesn't go to Newmarket we could well send him to The Curragh for the Irish 2000," Cecil said.

Condillac was heavily-backed before winning the Houghton Stakes at Newmarket on his only outing. Condillac's best distance may turn out to be 10 furlongs but a mile programme is planned in the early part of the year. Que Marido also impressed when winning a maiden race at Nottingham in September. Sired by blushing Groom, Que Marido is a half brother to the Champion Stakes runner-up, Prima Cecil said.

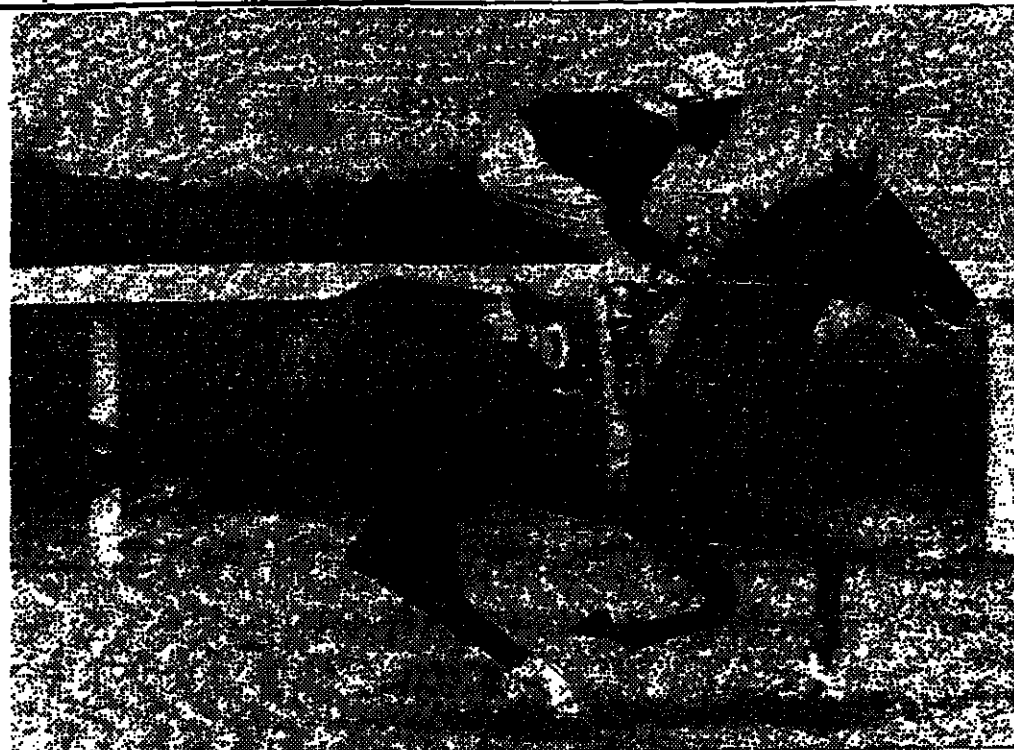
On the sprinting front, Cecil's obvious candidate for top honours is Precocious, who has just returned from convalescing at Woburn. He was injured after winning the Gimcrack Stakes at York in August, and the colt has been doing walking exercises for the past fortnight.

"X-rays show no sign of damage and Precocious is sound," Cecil said. "Habibi is obviously going to take all the beating but they always say that you should never be frightened of taking on one horse at a time. Temple Stakes at Sandown followed by one of the big sprints at Royal Ascot is the present idea."

Trojan Fen is a live Derby candidate. Unbeaten in his first four races, Stavros Niarchos's Troy colt finished third to Gold and Ivory in the Royal Lodge Stakes at Ascot in September. "I ran Trojan Fen against my own best judgment," Cecil said. "But the colt was past his best for the season."

Prickle is the stable's number one hope for the 1000 Guineas. Peter Player's home-bred filly was impressive in the Lowther Stakes at York and she was only beaten a head and a short head by Desirable and Pebbles in the Cheveley Park Stakes. "Prickle used to get very stirred up and hot, but she's much more settled," Cecil said. The daughter of the £100 mare Jungle Queen will be first seen in action in Newbury's Fred Darling Stakes.

Carlingford Castle will be out to repeat the stable's triumph with Le Moss and Andros in the Ascot Gold Cup. "Don't forget he had the speed to finish second to Teoseno in the Derby," Cecil said.



Old friends: Piggott and Vacarne before their enforced separation

Greenall poaches lead with treble

Point-to-point, by Ian Reid

Peter Greenall, men's champion in 1982, is making a determined effort to regain the title, which he lost narrowly to John Llewellyn last season. With easy victories on Broombarrow (Audi adjacent), Royal Hissie (members) and Chesham Ora (open), at the Cottingham on Saturday, he took his score to nine, three ahead of David Turner, who won the Cambridgeshire adjacent with the greatly-improved Salda-tore.

Greenall looked like bringing off a four-timer at Ganthorpe when Persue went well clear in the restricted open, but Robin Weav- ing's mare was caught between the last two and beaten by the 20-1 outsider, Shannon Grey. Highgate Lady, ridden by Emma Newton, won the BritAJ ladies' race on the bit from Scarlet Coon and The Froddler.

Brent Mysteries, ridden by young David Luff, tried to make all in the New Forest Buckhounds' Diners Club open at Larkhill, but he was caught near the finish by the Holland-Martin slipped Balbee past him on the inside to score by three lengths in the near-record time of 5min 36sec, seven seconds faster

than Right Lady's win in the women's race. Tawny Myth, at 4-1 on, duly qualified for the Audi final, which he will contest if the going gets no firmer. Meanwhile, he is being aimed at an RMC Group novice hunter chase at Devon and Exeter on March 30.

At Eaton Hall, Gold Prince was a 10-length winner of Sir W. W. Wyn's Open from Broken Country, who finished three lengths ahead of the favourite, Broiler Boy. Lucy Crow, on Royal Portora, bought recently out of Toby Baldwin's stable, and Harriet Small, on Honourable Enoch, had the ladies' finish to themselves. Royal Portora was a length and a half down at the last but passed Honourable Enoch on the run-in.

Most impressive winner of the ladies' race, Spartan Lover prevailing by half a length.

At the Southdown and Eridge at Parham, Tom Grantham got Chichester Bird home three-quarters of a length ahead of Kari's Fogarty on Saffron King in the Men's open.

In the ladies', Understones, the favourite, scored comfortably for Sarah French.

Robert Chugg, showed great gameness in resisting the challenges of Robin's Tango and Unbeatable Hand in the men's open.

Motorbike Man (members) and the previously untried five-year-old Maxi Moment (Massey Ferguson member, div II) provided Richard Mann with his second successive Saturday double, and Gold Miss against just failed to make it a treble, being caught on the run-in by Jubilee Clipper in the third maiden.

The 1982 Dudley Cup winner, Norman Case, ridden by Philip Mathias, came back to his best form to beat Sparkford by 12 lengths in the Golden Valley Open, with the favourite, Crumple Catcher, third. The joint favourite, Spartan Lover (Sue Vint) and Free Don (Tanya Davis) fought out the finish of the ladies' race, Spartan Lover prevailing by half a length.

At the Southdown and Eridge at Parham, Tom Grantham got Chichester Bird home three-quarters of a length ahead of Kari's Fogarty on Saffron King in the Men's open.

In the ladies', Understones, the favourite, scored comfortably for Sarah French.

Hill Of Slane's fitness to tell

By Phil McLennan

With the notable exception of Wayward Lad's record-breaking performance in the King George VI Chase at Kempton, Michael Dickinson's 1983 Chesham Gold Cup quietness have done little to maintain his lofty reputation this season. Bregman has turned sour. Captain John has not run. Wayward Lad disappointed at Chesham last week and Silver Buck is but a shadow of his former self.

Today Ashley House, the final member of that "famous five" makes his fifth attempt to get off the mark this season in the Trent Handicap Chase at Nottingham en route to the Grand National, sponsored by Seagram, at Aintree in 11 days time.

Last year Ashley House looked every inch a future Grand National winner with his stamina and superb jumping winning him four good races. However, he has yet to recapture that sparkle since his disappointing when a well-beaten fifth in the Honorable Man in the Catterick National Trial, five weeks ago.

Apparently Ashley House was badly affected by the virus which

struck Harewood and in the circumstances it would be one of Dickinson's most remarkable achievements if he could now saddle Ashley House to win the National with 11st 13lb.

However he fares on Saturday week. Ashley House is sure to need the race today, a remark which definitely does not apply to his principal rival, Hill of Slane. Alan Jarvis's eight-year-old ran only five days ago when he produced probably his best performance of the season to finish fourth to Tracys Special in the Ritz Club Chase at Cheltenham.

I have a slight reservation about Hill of Slane's ability to stay three miles and an receipt of 17lb from the top weight, and with a big fitness advantage he is the logical selection.

Not for the first time in recent weeks, the longest race of the day is a hunter chase. Magsalot, Easter Eel and Roadhead will have their supporters but all three have been better days and the issue is likely to rest between the younger pair, Connaught Ranger and Song of Life.

Song of Life took the corresponding race 12 months ago but had to be pulled up in a hot open race at the South Durham point-to-point earlier this month and preference is for Connaught Ranger, who won by a distance at Warwick a fortnight ago.

Cubic Zirconia was only moderate on the Flat but looks to have a future over timber and should get off the mark in the first division of the Chesham Novices' Hurdle. He gave highly-rated Chas plenty to think about at Market Rasen 11 days ago and a reproduction of that run should see him outpace the luckless Derby Dilly.

Most interesting race on a drab Fontwell card is the Slindon Scholars Novices' Hurdle where Seabattle's fitness should give him the edge over Rhythmic Pastimes.

Pat Eddery rides Quite A Night for David Oughton in Saturday's Lincoln Handicap. Joe Mercer partners Razor Sharp for Charles Nelson.

Leam Fan is 10-1 favourite with Corals for the Derby on June 6.

Francome needs 20 more for record

Christy out of the Grand National, O'Neill said: "He injured his fore at Sandown and will be out of action until Christmas."

John Robson, aged 21, rode his first winner on Veleo in the Don Butchers Handicap Hurdle, the partnership hanging on by a fast diminishing short head from Romanas. Veleo should have won more easily but Robson was overcome by the occasion and dropping his hands before the finishing line.

Plumpton results

2.15 DROVES RESTAURANT NOVICE CHASE (21.10.2m 2f 40y) DORR, h, by L'Honnore Arme - Pagan (B China) 7-11-8. J. Francombe (4-5) 1v. 1. Robson (4-5) 2. J. Murphy (5-2) 3. Opening Night (11-1) 4. J. Davies (5-1) 5. 1.20. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 2.30. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 2.45. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 2.50. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 3.00. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 3.10. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 3.20. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 3.30. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 3.40. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 3.50. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 4.00. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 4.10. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 4.20. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 4.30. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 4.40. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 4.50. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 5.00. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 5.10. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 5.20. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 5.30. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 5.40. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 5.50. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 6.00. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 6.10. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 6.20. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 6.30. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 6.40. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 6.50. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 7.00. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 7.10. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 7.20. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 7.30. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 7.40. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 7.50. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 8.00. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 8.10. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 8.20. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 8.30. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 8.40. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 8.50. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 9.00. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 9.10. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 9.20. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 9.30. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 9.40. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 9.50. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 10.00. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 10.10. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 10.20. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 10.30. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 10.40. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 10.50. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 11.00. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 11.10. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 11.20. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 11.30. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 11.40. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 11.50. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 12.00. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 12.10. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 12.20. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 12.30. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 12.40. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 12.50. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 13.00. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 13.10. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 13.20. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 13.30. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 13.40. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 13.50. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 14.00. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 14.10. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 14.20. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 14.30. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 14.40. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 14.50. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 15.00. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 15.10. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 15.20. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 15.30. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 15.40. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 15.50. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 16.00. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 16.10. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 16.20. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 16.30. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 16.40. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 16.50. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 17.00. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 17.10. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 17.20. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 17.30. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 17.40. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 17.50. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 18.00. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 18.10. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 18.20. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 18.30. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 18.40. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 18.50. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 19.00. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 19.10. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 19.20. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 19.30. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 19.40. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 19.50. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 20.00. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 20.10. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 20.20. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 20.30. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 20.40. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 20.50. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 21.00. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 21.10. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 21.20. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 21.30. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 21.40. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 21.50. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 22.00. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 22.10. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 22.20. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 22.30. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 22.40. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 22.50. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 23.00. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 23.10. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 23.20. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 23.30. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 23.40. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 23.50. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 24.00. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 24.10. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 24.20. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 24.30. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 24.40. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 24.50. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 25.00. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 25.10. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 25.20. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 25.30. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 25.40. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 25.50. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 26.00. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 26.10. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 26.20. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 26.30. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 26.40. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 26.50. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 27.00. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 27.10. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 27.20. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 27.30. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 27.40. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 27.50. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 28.00. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 28.10. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 28.20. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.50. 28.30. Wm. 22.00. Places: £1.20, £1.20, £1.20. SP: £2.50, £2.50, £2.

Legal Appointments

Legally Qualified Professional Currency and Interest Rate Swaps

Citicorp, a pioneer and market leader in this fast expanding field of merchant banking, wishes to strengthen their London-based swaps team with a Documentation Professional.

As deputy to the head of the swaps documentation unit within the team, you will take responsibility for the legal/ documentary aspects of swaps transactions. You will be involved in the preparation of documentation, liaising with counsel as necessary and negotiating documentation with clients. You must be prepared to travel overseas at short notice.

You are expected to give advice and assistance to team members in matters of a legal/documentary nature. In the absence of the Head of the Documentation Unit you will be

responsible for its day-to-day functioning.

To apply you will need a law degree and at least two or three years' relevant experience in law or international banking, which will include drafting and negotiating of legal documentation of international merchant banking transactions. Accuracy, a good legal mind and common sense are indispensable.

In due course there are prospects for other career opportunities within Citicorp.

For the right man or woman we will provide an attractive remuneration package.

Please write enclosing full career details to Miss Hanneke Frese, Citicorp, 335 Strand, London WC2.

CITICORP

Opportunity in banking for a young lawyer

City c. £15,000

Williams & Glyn's Bank wish to appoint a legal assistant to join a small team advising Senior Management on the legal aspects of the bank's activities, particularly those relating to lending both in the U.K. and internationally.

This is an opportunity for a barrister or a solicitor with considerable experience of commercial law to make a career in banking.

We offer a starting total remuneration of approx. £15,000 including profit sharing and bonus. Other benefits include house purchase scheme, interest free season ticket loan, and six weeks holiday.

Please write to Derek Grant, Recruitment Manager at:

Williams & Glyn's Bank plc
New London Bridge House,
25 London Bridge Street,
London SE1 9SX.
Telephone: 01-407 3121.

Commercial Property

c. £20,000 + car

Our Client, one of Europe's largest retailers of Home Improvement Products, is looking for a Solicitor to join its European Group Headquarters in Central London.

The principal responsibility will be for commercial property work arising out of our Client's existing property interests and their plans for substantial expansion in the U.K. There will also be some involvement in the whole range of the Group's legal affairs both in the U.K. and in Europe.

This is an exciting opportunity for an experienced commercial conveyancer with at least 5 years' experience in a challenging post in a vigorous and expanding Group. Salary negotiable for the right candidate.

Please send c.v. to Chambers & Partners, 74 Long Lane, London, EC1A 9ET, or telephone us on 006 9371.

Chambers & Partners

Recruitment of Lawyers for Industry

Company/Commercial

Public Company/Banking bias

Our client is a medium-sized, fast-expanding and diversifying City firm with an overseas office and a strong client base in a specialist commercial area.

Planned development and growth have created an opening for an experienced Company/Commercial Solicitor to enable them to offer clients a Public Company and/or Banking service. The ideal candidate will have between 3 and 5 years broad and relevant commercial experience with a large City firm. A strong, outgoing and ambitious personality is essential. If you are interested in the very real challenge and rewards (remuneration will not be a limiting factor for the right candidate) write to me, Mrs. Indira Brown, quoting reference number 2088, Corporate Resourcing Group Limited, 6 Westminster Palace Gardens, Artillery Row, London SW1P 1RL. Telephone number 01-222 5555.

Corporate Resourcing Group

Management Consultants · Executive Search

Part of Berntson International
BRUSSELS · COPENHAGEN · FRANKFURT · GENEVA · LONDON · MADRID · NEW YORK · PARIS

Legal Adviser

International Computers Limited, Europe's leading computer and information technology company, requires a well-qualified barrister or solicitor to join the ICL Group's head office legal team based in Putney, London.

Applicants, aged under 30, must have a good law degree and about two years' experience in private practice or as an in-house lawyer.

The work of the ICL Group's legal team covers a broad range of company and commercial work including international commercial agreements, EEC law, competition law, employment law, joint ventures, acquisitions and disposals and the law of intellectual property. Candidates must have - or be able and willing rapidly to acquire - experience and expertise in all or most of these areas.

The key requirement is the ability to bring sound legal skills to bear on the activities of a complex international high technology business in a professional but practical fashion.

Salary will be up to £14,000.

Please send details of qualifications and experience to John Llewellyn-Davies, Personnel Manager, at International Computers Limited, ICL House, Putney, London SW15 1SW (telephone 01-788 7272 ext. 2666).

ICL

We should be talking to each other.

Barristers' Clerk

Temple £15,000-£20,000

A leading set of commercial chambers is seeking a person of proven ability to assist in all aspects of its administration.

Following the introduction of a computer, these chambers wish to employ someone aged about 28 who, notwithstanding the need for the unique personal qualities suited to this choice of career, can extend the traditional role of Clerk by an administrative dimension more frequently found in industry and commerce.

The post may, therefore, appeal to unqualified staff in a firm of solicitors, or members of the legal department of a large company, who are not only familiar with the system of retaining Counsel but also with the use of up-to-date information processing equipment, and possess the administrative and organisational skills necessary in running a successful business.

The chambers are able to be flexible in negotiating the starting salary - a guide to which is indicated above - and the position will carry excellent prospects.

Please send brief cv, in confidence, to PAB Wemyss, Ref: PF25/8585/TT.

PA

PA Personnel Services

Hyde Park House, 66a Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7LE.
Tel: 01-235 6060 Telex: 27874

Conveyancing Solicitor

Major Oil Company

A major oil company wishes to appoint a Conveyancing Solicitor in its Legal Department in central London.

Applications are invited from solicitors with at least two years' post qualification experience, and preferably with a law degree. The preferred age is 25-30. The job requires the ability to handle a variety of conveyancing work connected with the Company's marketing activities in the UK, and related matters. The successful applicant must also have business acumen, drive and initiative.

Salary and benefits will fully reflect the responsibility of the position.

Please write, giving details of age, qualifications, experience and present salary (as well as a telephone number, if convenient) to: Confidential Reply Service, Ref. ASC8958, Austin Knight Advertising Limited, London, W1A 1DS.

Applications are forwarded to the client concerned, therefore companies in which you are not interested should be listed in a covering letter to the Confidential Reply Supervisor.

Austin Knight Advertising

Assistant Law Draftsman States of Jersey

Salary circa £16,000

A vacancy will arise in the Law Drafting Section of the States Greffe early in 1985 and it is desired to make an appointment during the autumn of 1984 to provide an adequate hand-over period.

Jersey is a self-governing island with its own legislature of politically independent members. It is independent of the United Kingdom for all purposes except defence and international affairs. The island's administration is run by Committees composed of elected members of the States and by the Jersey Civil Service. All the principal Committees have the statutory authority to promote legislation, both principal and subordinate.

As a member of a small team, the Assistant Law Draftsman will be expected to draft, without detailed supervision, all items of legislation, which are enacted by Committees of the States or the States itself.

Applicants should be over 35 years of age and should be qualified either as a Barrister or Solicitor with at least ten years practical legal experience, five years of which should have been spent in the field of legislative drafting. The post will be on a contract basis for a period of five years.

Application form and job description available from States Personnel Department, Cyril Le Marquand House, P.O. Box 600, The Parade, St. Helier, Jersey C.I. Telephone 0534 79111 Ext 135. Closing date 10th April 1984.

SJ Berwin & Co

COMMERCIAL LAWYERS

SJ Berwin & Co wish to recruit young solicitors who have recently qualified, for its commercial department. The work which will appeal to able and energetic solicitors with a good academic background is demanding and lively and covers banking, intellectual property and EEC law. The positions are suitable both for newly qualified solicitors and those with two to three years experience since qualification, in a firm where career prospects and terms of employment are excellent.

Applications will be treated in strict confidence, and applicants should write with full CV to:

D T D Harrel
SJ Berwin & Co
Capital House,
42 Weston Street,
London SE1 3QN.
(01-403 3111).

Norton, Rose, Botterell & Roche

Commercial Property Lawyers

We are expanding our Property Department in order to handle an increasing amount of property development and related commercial property work. We are looking for Solicitors with a real interest in and flair for this important area of our practice. Ideally applicants should have about two years relevant experience but we are quite ready to consider anyone of ability with less experience who can demonstrate the necessary potential and enthusiasm.

Salary and benefits will take full account of the challenging and demanding role to be fulfilled by successful applicants.

Please apply in writing to:

Robert Staveley,
Kempton House,
Camomile Street,
London EC3A 7AN

Norton, Rose, Botterell & Roche

LAWYERS for Middle or Far East

Coward Chance are expanding their overseas operations in the Middle and Far East and require qualified solicitors or barristers willing to work abroad after a period in their City office.

Applicants with a good degree and experience in international financial, commercial or shipping work will be preferred.

Career prospects are good and salary and other benefits will be competitive.

Please write with full c.v. to:

Mr. M.C.C. Magridge,

Coward Chance, Royal House,

Aldersbury Square,

London, EC2V 7LD.

COWARD CHANCE

COMPANY COMMERCIAL £12,500

Our Client is a leading 2 years old company with a wide range of services including Sales, and Business Acquisitions, and Disposals, Joint Ventures, Corporate Finance and the organisations, Participations and Intellectual Property, Central London Solicitors.

COMMERCIAL CONVEYANCING

Our Client is a leading West End Practice, require a Solicitor newly qualified up to 2 years admitted to work on various property matters including insurance projects and investments etc. The Applicant must have initiative and motivation to work in a rapidly expanding and progressive practice. Salary and Benefits Package Competitive.

LINDA BEST

01-485 2851

Kestral Law Employment
P.O. Box 2, 238 High
Hammers, London W11.

CO. COMM. SOLICITOR

7 Partner firms in W1 require Solicitor 1/3 yrs admitted with sound commercial training. Apply to:

LONDON LEGAL
EXECUTIVES

20 Maddox St,

London W1R 9LD

Tel 01-493 1282

Recruitment Consultants

LITIGATION CROYDON

Substantial local practice with West End connections requires Solicitor with 1/3 years experience to manage and develop existing civil clientele. Varied work, pleasant conditions and good salary.

Apply with CV to R. W. Bell, Esq.
Stoneham Langton & Passmore
28 Wellesley Road, Croydon CR9 2BP.

Suffolk County Council

County Prosecuting Solicitor's Department PROSECUTING SOLICITORS

(2 Posts) £10,242 - £12,738 per annum

Applications, including those from newly qualified Solicitors, are invited for the above posts which provide good opportunities for persons interested in gaining a wide experience in advocacy in the criminal courts.

Essential car user and subsistence allowance are attached to the posts. Removal and lodging expenses paid where appropriate.

Applications giving age, qualifications, experience and the names of two referees should be sent by 12th April 1984 to M. F. C. Harvey, County Prosecuting Solicitor, Suffolk Constabulary Force Headquarters, Martineau Road, Ipswich IP5 7QS.

YOUNG SOLICITOR/BARRISTER for Record Company

A recently qualified solicitor or barrister is sought to join the legal department of Phonogram Ltd. As assistant to the Manager - Legal & Business Affairs, the successful candidate will be involved with the preparation of agreements, administration of artist contracts and all day-to-day business.

Applicants should be aged early-mid 20's, have an interest in contemporary music and the desire to make a legal career within the music business.

Please send a detailed c.v. to Veronica Spicer, Personnel Officer, Phonogram Limited, 50 New Bond Street, London W1. Tel. 01-491 4600.

phonogram

COUNTY OF CAMBRIDGE APPOINTMENT OF PROSECUTING SOLICITOR

The County Prosecuting Solicitor advises and undertakes prosecutions on behalf of the Chief Constable of Cambridgeshire. A vacancy exists for a Prosecuting Solicitor. The post provides an opportunity for someone interested in advocacy and court work in a pleasant part of the country.

Our offer allowance on the appropriate scale will be paid and payments towards removal and lodging expenses. Rental accommodation may be made available for a period of up to twelve months following appointment or by arrangement on a most permanent basis.

The salary will be within the range £12,087 - £13,395. Local Government experience is not essential but preference will be given to applicants who can demonstrate either at least twelve months' experience in advocacy since admission or substantial experience of criminal court work prior to admission. An applicant with substantial relevant experience and aptitude may expect to be appointed some way up the advertised grade.

Newly qualified solicitors will be considered but may be appointed for a probation period of slightly below the minimum for the grade advertised.

For a form of application please write to the undersigned or for an informal word, telephone Huntingdon (0455) 56111 Ext 600.

The closing date for applications is Wednesday 11th April 1984.

David C. Bull, MA (Cantab)
County Prosecuting Solicitor
County of Cambridgeshire
The Manor, Broomfield
HUNTINGDON
Cambs PE18 8PG

LEGAL CASHIER City, scope for training. Personal appointments 24/7. 1201 024 hrs service.

DOCKET CLERK Conveyancing - defined by the solicitor for set. Under 25. £10,000 p.a. Telephone 01-904 8400.

CONVEYANCER £12,000 p.a. London. Personal appointments. 24/7 1201 024 hrs service.

LEGAL EXEC City comm conveyance. 12/14 hrs service. Personal appointments 24/7 1201 024 hrs service.

LOCAL ATTENTION SOLICITOR from 1st April to end September 1984. Criminal, advocacy and own office. Telephone 01-904 8400.

SOUTHERN Litigation - 2 years exp. to work comm. Early Feb 84. £12,000 p.a. Personal appointments. 24/7 1201 024 hrs service.

LEGAL EXEC South. £12,000 p.a. Personal appointments 24/7 1201 024 hrs service.

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

WIFE & DAD Happy Anniversary
with much love from Jim and
Sally.

SHILL MAKE MONEY Send us your
half-notes which we will match on a
half-cent basis to double the amount
each of which will be distributed
to the 2 successful half-note
holders. Less whatever amount
wishes to donate to this registered
charity. **LEUKAEMIA Research Fund**,
Landwades Hall, Fleet, Prescot, Merseyside,
Newmarket, Suffolk, CO2 7UT.

URGENT

**HELP FUND THE
CURE FOR LEUKAEMIA**


More research nationwide.
More patient care. More
progress and hope than ever.

LEUKAEMIA
Research Fund

Dept. 1, 43 Great Ouseway, 5th Fl.,
London WC1N 3AT. Tel: 01-462 9761

**Heart research
couldn't survive
without
your help.**

Send your donation today to:
British Heart Foundation
162, Chancery Lane, London WC2H 1AD



FACT


**THE NUMBER OF
SUFFERERS OF
THIS DISEASE is**
increasing alarmingly

DIABETES

*Join us - Help us
Support us*

**BRITISH DIABETIC
ASSOCIATION**

10 Queen Anne St.
London W1M 0BD

[illegible]

Summer brochure available
01 786 2200
**309 Breckenridge Road
Linda SW5 5D7
AUSTA ATOL 153Z**

ARLOTA-for 10. Super villas with
swimming pools, tennis courts, basketball
courts, volleyball court, mini golf, clubhouse,
barbecue area, the Park & the Star Villa
building brochure. Typical prices \$100-
\$1500 per week. Brochure request call reg.
0400/2500 p.m. Brochures (099 481)
5413 SEA hrs.

JAMAICA Super villas with pools
and covered parking with full service
residents. The Caribbean section of the
Pine Cliffs Hotel and architecture. Tel: (069
481) 5413 SEA hrs.

CUT CUTTERS on flights/bike to
Haguenahua, Costa Rica, 1 day
Discovery Travel. 01 730 2201.
ABETA ATOL 153Z.

CHEAP Worldwide specials.
Europe/USA/Caribbean/Australia.
Telephone: 01 579 9111.

BRENEVA, R 559 rth, at Gateway
to Haguenahua, Costa Rica. 099 3199.
ATOL 1489 Access/Via.

AUSTRALIA, NZ, Japan, New Zealand
Email: 50077 67038

[illegible][illegible]

PERSONAL COLUMNS

FOR SALE

RUSSIAN SILVER FOX

Model coat, long length

BLACK GLAMA FEMALE MINK

Model coat, the belt

Absolutely as new. Value in excess

of £2,000

Accept £1,750 each

0455 632594

TONNES of the York paving stone. Excellent condition. Call public

enquiries, 570 ne l'onne sub VAT.

Tel. 06260 95721.

IMMEDIATE DELIVERY Seasonal new Trousers Matching color T.V.s at low discounts. Return of top. Top TV. Lower Sloane St. Tel. 01700 0935.

Quality Quality wool carpets. All trade prices and under. Also available 100% pure wool. Call for details. Call for details.

URGENT! PUNCH Sporting Chronicle. Weather reports (1980-1978). Give someone an original time saved by the

news for the week! They were born

£1.8. 0492 34105.

INVORCED MEN! Legal ways to rental sex with professional escorts. 17000 Survival Guide. £250 post free. Tel. 01700 0935.

Princess Red, London, W11 9AB.

URGENT! PUNCH Sporting Chronicle. Weather reports (1980-1978). Give someone an original time saved by the

news for the week! They were born

£1.8. 0492 34105.

URGENT! PUNCH Sporting Chronicle. Weather reports (1980-1978). Give someone an original time saved by the

news for the week! They were born

£1.8. 0492 34105.

URGENT! PUNCH Sporting Chronicle. Weather reports (1980-1978). Give someone an original time saved by the

news for the week! They were born

£1.8. 0492 34105.

URGENT! PUNCH Sporting Chronicle. Weather reports (1980-1978). Give someone an original time saved by the

news for the week! They were born

£1.8. 0492 34105.

URGENT! PUNCH Sporting Chronicle. Weather reports (1980-1978). Give someone an original time saved by the

news for the week! They were born

£1.8. 0492 34105.

URGENT! PUNCH Sporting Chronicle. Weather reports (1980-1978). Give someone an original time saved by the

news for the week! They were born

£1.8. 0492 34105.

URGENT! PUNCH Sporting Chronicle. Weather reports (1980-1978). Give someone an original time saved by the

news for the week! They were born

£1.8. 0492 34105.

URGENT! PUNCH Sporting Chronicle. Weather reports (1980-1978). Give someone an original time saved by the

news for the week! They were born

£1.8. 0492 34105.

URGENT! PUNCH Sporting Chronicle. Weather reports (1980-1978). Give someone an original time saved by the

news for the week! They were born

£1.8. 0492 34105.

URGENT! PUNCH Sporting Chronicle. Weather reports (1980-1978). Give someone an original time saved by the

news for the week! They were born

£1.8. 0492 34105.

URGENT! PUNCH Sporting Chronicle. Weather reports (1980-1978). Give someone an original time saved by the

news for the week! They were born

£1.8. 0492 34105.

URGENT! PUNCH Sporting Chronicle. Weather reports (1980-1978). Give someone an original time saved by the

news for the week! They were born

£1.8. 0492 34105.

URGENT! PUNCH Sporting Chronicle. Weather reports (1980-1978). Give someone an original time saved by the

news for the week! They were born

£1.8. 0492 34105.

URGENT! PUNCH Sporting Chronicle. Weather reports (1980-1978). Give someone an original time saved by the

news for the week! They were born

£1.8. 0492 34105.

URGENT! PUNCH Sporting Chronicle. Weather reports (1980-1978). Give someone an original time saved by the

news for the week! They were born

£1.8. 0492 34105.

URGENT! PUNCH Sporting Chronicle. Weather reports (1980-1978). Give someone an original time saved by the

news for the week! They were born

£1.8. 0492 34105.

URGENT! PUNCH Sporting Chronicle. Weather reports (1980-1978). Give someone an original time saved by the

news for the week! They were born

£1.8. 0492 34105.

URGENT! PUNCH Sporting Chronicle. Weather reports (1980-1978). Give someone an original time saved by the

news for the week! They were born

RENTALS

KEITH CARDALE GROVES

ST JOHN'S WOOD NW8

Spectacular flat for rent in handsome

house. Ideal for entertaining. Date

[illegible][illegible]

GLOBAL SKI BARGAINS
QUICK, QUICK, SNOW!

ITALY — £40 off 1 week, holidays
£90 off 2 week holidays
or departures from Genkwick on 24
March; 7 April and 21 April (1 week
only).

AUSTRIA — £50 off 1 week holidays
£90 off 2 week holidays
for departures from Genkwick
on 25 March

FRANCE & SWITZERLAND —
£50 off 1 week holidays
£90 off 2 week holidays
for departures from Genkwick
on 24 March.

Flight seats only £50 return
inclusive.

on your local ASTA Travel agent
or ring Global on 01-636 3025.
ASTA/ATOL 343

**22 CHARING CROSS ROAD,
W1C
(nr Leicester Sq. Tube Stn.)
01-240 2310.**

**CORKOPLAST
CORK TILES**
NATURAL EXPAND
**£7.95 SQ. YD + VAT
LIMITED STOCK
RESISTA CARPETS**
148 Wandsworth Bridge Rd,
SW6, 731 3385
182 Upper Richmond Rd West,
SW16, 876 2869
297 Havantstock Hill, NW3
734 0139

MULTI-NATIONAL Company has
£200,000 worth of stock for sale.
£200,000 per Hudson Real Estate
Co. Ltd. 01-240 2310.

WATERLOO 45 min. 3 bed full
modernised character home with
Max 18 min. to p.c.m. near
no share. (0204 3460, evs)

REMARKABLE 2 bed 1 bath
flat, spec. on Ch. 1998 0834 ulv

CENTRAL FLATS, HOUSES and
flats, long & short lets. Premium
Properties Ltd 0204 3460, evs

AMERICAN BARN recently
renovated, 1000 sq. ft. 1000 sq. ft.
per week. Burying 1480 1710

W.R. Aspinall modern 4 bed flat
£136, 990. 446 7501

CONCRETE ESTATES urgently
entire houses and flats in
central London. 01-240 2310

W.1. Excellent 3 bed 2 bath 1750
fully furnished, 01-636 3025

AMERICAN LECTURE 448 7501

KNIGHTSHEAD interior design
and fully furnished, 0204 3460

ALLEN BATES & CO. 199 1668

W.R. Seacord modern 6th fl flat
bed room 3, 1 bath, 1200 sq. ft.
Allen Bates & Co. 199 1668

BEHR & BUTCHOFF urgently
regional furnished properties in central
& NW London. 526 7091

SAMUELS & CO. Ltd. 01-636
3025, 3 bed, 1 b, 1200 sq. ft.
01-636 3025

W.R. Small private 6th fl flat
rental. 526 sq. 600 9131 at
£500.

MODERN NEWLY DECORATED
1st, 1st bath, lower house. £1000
Commercial Road. 01-636 3025

ALLEN BATES & CO. have numerous
flats available for short & long term
rental. 526 sq. 600 9131 at £500

WANTED for 3 months from 1st April
£1000 per flat for single part. male. 526
7091 (evs)

INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE are
looking for furnished flats in
America 526 9615

Wanted for 3 months from 1st April
£1,115 per flat. 446 7501

DOWNEY, MR WINDSOR Low
rental in furnished house
on M4, 3 beds, 2 baths & carport
£1000 per month. 01-636 3025

BLADON LINES

● Save up to £144.
● All chalets & chalet hotels at £175.
● All budget chalets at £125.
● All self-catering at £99.

01-785 2200

SENIOR SALES EXECUTIVES

IBM SYSTEMS

£32k-OTE £52k for 140, of target

Computing Financing International Limited is an established company whose principal involvement is in the supply, installation and financing of new and second user IBM mainframes, minis and peripherals and plug compatible storage disks, tape drives, impact and laser printers and VDU's.

The projected turnover for 1984/85 is in excess of £20 million.

Due to further expansion vacancies exist for both DPD Sales Executives and GSD Sales Executives.


Candidates will have a proven track record of success in sales of IBM hardware ideally with broad based experience of lease finance although consideration will be given to candidates with a strong financial background. The successful applicant will be an entrepreneurial self starter with a high level of motivation and ability to command a hearing at the highest levels.

Prospects for promotion are excellent as it is envisaged that two sales managers will be recruited from the sales force by the end of 1984.

Remuneration is by way of a competitive basic salary plus commission offering £32k for on target performance against realistic quotas with no ceiling commission thereafter. Further benefits include a 1.8 litre company car and private health insurance after a qualifying period.

Please call Guy Coldwell, UK General Manager on 0483 68080 during office hours or write to him enclosing your CV to:

Computer Financing International Limited
Imperial Life House
London Road
Guildford
Surrey, GU1 1TE



SHORT LETS

SERVICES APARTMENTS in Kensington with colour TV & bath, south-westward A.C. toilet, Cottingham Apartments, ST 3306.

LUXURY SERVICED FLATS, central London from £150 pw, Ring Way House Ald. 01-373 5433.

FLAT SHARING

CHELSEA Redditch in family house. Montagu-Vernon, £180 pcm incl. bills. breakfast. DT 01-551 1499.

CLAPHAM Prov Gsm to share newly car quest main. CH. incl 8 mins Tube & Bus. £140 pcm incl. bills. DT 3603 (even).

WGS Prov girl, non-smoker to share 2 bed flat. ch. s.v. excellent transport. £170 pcm. Tel: 01-537 6379 (after 6pm).

KEEL W2. - 3rd prd girl. 27yr, fr. quest charming flat. 0.7/1. close Tube. £130 pcm incl. Tel: 229 5118, after 6 pm.

CHESWICK Made on 2nd persons in the quest house. W.O. dressing rm. £50 pw. Tel: 375 3624 (even) 945 6445 (even).

NR BOND ST Excellent rm, own telephone + wc. £50 pw incl. 01-629 0720.

LADY to share flat off Holland Rd. 0.1/2 with bath, central, gas. City England. £60 00/00 incl.

HIGHGATE Sunny double room for 1. Excellent. £100 pw. incl. bills. 01-353 5599 (in am).

FULHAM Prov F. to share lux. main. with owner. P.D. Come all amenities. £250 p.w. incl. bills. Tel: 374 4465 (even).

WE M.F. O.R. in suit level flat. 10 min's walk to bus. £145 pw. incl. 385 5303, 7 pm.

WANDSVORTH COMMON, nr main line, bus, train, 0.2/1. bath in family hse. £35 p.w. Tel: 373 5689.

WEAR CITY W.O. and dog to share house own fitted rm. £30 pw. No bills. 655 6600.

WE O/R attractive house. £45pw incl. Tel: 4332/7448 4380 even.

APPOINTMENTS

DEAL WITH PEOPLE

CEN LONDON - INEG.

If you like working with people and can't believe as we do that finding them is one of the UK's largest employment agency groups. If you are an individual with a proven experience to work as a sales representative and socially aware environment. If you have all relevant experience for your own company background, be advertisement and situations self-motivated candidates (aged 24-50) with all commercial experience are most welcome. We can offer full training, earnings potential and planned career prospects. Please ring

ACCOUNTANCY PERSONNEL
1 GLEN RISE, STAG PLACE,
LONDON SW1. 01-828 6004.

RESIDENTIAL sales negotiator. Mature, career-minded individual preferred to experience to work as a busy Kensington Estate agency. Salary commensurate with experience. 01-543 8521.

SALES AND MARKETING APPOINTMENTS

SALES-ORIENTATED LINGUISTS. To visit a very special language course to top executives. Minimum 10 degrees, good sales record. Fluent French & German. dynamic. 01-492 1624.

TEAMING TIMES

STIMULATING restaurants begin at Covent Garden Bureau. For the most interesting and profitable business. Tel: 361 7696.

BUSINESS FOR SALE

BUY A BUSINESS in Gurney, No

SITUATIONS WANTED

UNIVERSITY LECTURER icla 40, active, many talents, new, seeks new job. similar or full or part-time. Phone 04 0403.

EDUCATED LADY 40 Homecraft and sewing machine permanent post in London. Consider change of career. 04214 after 5pm.

GRANDMA 63, 3 years' experience in a sales challe. new career. References and 02271 840179.

PART TIME VACANCIES

MEDICAL SECRETARY, mature, required part time to take over in busy Harley St practice. Tel: 9422.

[illegible]

INVESTMENT PROPERTY

ATTENTION INVESTORS - Toronto/Canada based Real Estate brokers' invitation London on business, wishes to meet investors and clients. In important real estate projects in Toronto and North America. Contact: Mr. Benhur Ghoranani at the Park Plaza Hotel, Tel 01-269 3062 from March 18 to March 26, '84.

DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS

WE ARE LOOKING for a responsible nanny/mothers help to live with our family. We have a daughter 10 years old, 2 years and most of the year we live in the British Columbia province. The ideal applicant would be in her twenties, have excellent working with children, enjoy living in the country and have a minimum 1 year experience, teaching experience and some knowledge of French would be useful. The successful applicant must be able to travel freely and easily to the U.S.A. and U.K. and must have the curable of the responsibility of daughter in the parents' absence. References will be required and interviews will be arranged in London.

PALAIS DES BEAUX - ARTS
Rue Royale, 10 - 1000 Bruxelles

PUBLIC AUCTION

on March 27th, 28th and 29th, 1984

XVIII century porcelain services from China, the Meissen and Sèvres factories. XVIII century silver - Marble fountains and torso columns - Antique oriental carpets - Furniture.

Old Masters: Brueghel and Van Kessel, Leemans, Malcke, Ruens (school of) Van Capelle, Haneman, etc.

Modern Picture: De Warocquier, H. - Ensor, J. Gennez, P. E. - Koekoek, B. C. - Leonardi - Masvins - Musin, A. Pécus, Ch. - Rops, F. - A Spil-

[illegible]

Picket lines calmer as police blanket coalfield



Nottinghamshire miners going to work, as pickets clashed with police at Barnsley, and officials tried to calm the crowd (Photograph: John Manning and Brian Harris).

By Barrie Clement and Craig Seton

A warning of the scale of conflict to come if the National Coal Board goes ahead with contempt proceedings against the Yorkshire area of the National Union of Mineworkers was made yesterday as scuffles broke out among 1,000 miners assembled outside the union headquarters in Barnsley.

The militant pitmen, from Britain's largest coalfield, where all collieries are strike-bound, gathered to prevent court officials seizing union funds.

The demonstrators, who twice broke through police lines to kick out at photographers, dispersed when they heard that the Board had won an adjournment of contempt proceedings. A police spokesman said that most demonstrators were "jocular and good-natured".

Meanwhile, outside pits in the second-largest coalfield, Nottinghamshire, policemen drawn from all over the country, outnumbered pickets by at least three to one. At Harworth Colliery, where the first violence erupted last week, there were 3,000 policemen and 30 pickets.

The massive police operation

and an instruction for the union's Yorkshire area executive to "cool it", resulted in peaceful picketing on the whole, with just five arrests.

All 25 Nottinghamshire pits were working and most men crossed picket lines manned by groups of between five and 120 miners largely from Yorkshire and South Wales.

Police guarded most major roads connecting the counties with instructions to order pickets back if they suspected there could be a breach of the peace. About three thousand policemen were billeted in and around the county.

On Sunday a delegate meeting at the union's Nottinghamshire headquarters decided to resume work and call for a national ballot on the stoppage over pit closures.

A contingent of Welshmen outside Thoresby colliery, Britain's most productive pit, were surprised to see their Nottinghamshire colleagues cross picket lines.

One said: "We have never seen anything like this. They would never cross picket lines in South Wales." Welsh miners voted against a strike but were "picketed out".

At a peaceful picket outside Harworth colliery, Mr Melvin Smith, aged 25, had walked five miles from his pit at Rossington, to call on his colleagues not to work. "We are not trying to stop them going in. We are just asking them to back us", he said.

Union leaders in Derbyshire overturned last week's slender vote by their members not to strike and brought eight pits to a standstill.

Mr Gordon Butler, acting area secretary, said the executive has decided to remove 41 votes cast by men in rescue stations, and other areas not directly involved in the closure issue. That turned a majority of 16 against a strike into one of 11 in favour.

Mr Butler protested at the "flying police" in the area. He said: "The Nottinghamshire area is to all intents and purposes a police state, and our members do not feel we require the protection of police working under a law we oppose."

"If we did not have control of the situation we would be handing it to the police. In view of the prospect of men against men the solution was a strike declaration."

Coal board pulls back from court

Continued from page 1

The Derbyshire miners' executive voted 12 to 2 yesterday to join the stoppage after reassessing the local vote. By excluding small private mines, rescue stations and laboratories, they decided that there was a majority of 11 for a strike.

In Lancashire, where most men went in to work most coal production stopped in the afternoon as men at the Bickershaw-Parsonage pit complex, the Golborne mine and Parkside pit became reluctant to cross Yorkshire picket lines.

Yorkshire at Point of Ayr Colliery in North Wales also stopped after flying pickets appeared.

The Kent area of the NUM was preparing last night to take legal action against the police who stopped miners in the Dartford tunnel on the way to other coalfields on Sunday. Leading article Page 13

Britain stands firm at EEC summit

Continued from page 1

President Mitterrand, who kept the discussions moving, appeared to be a little concerned by Mrs Thatcher's tone. "We have all come here to make compromises", he said to the meeting at one point.

"Anyone who has not come here to make compromises should have stayed at home."

One diplomat who observed the British Prime Minister found her "stiff, hard and abrasive".

Mr Paul Schluter, the Danish Prime Minister, gained a very negative view of Britain's negotiating position. During a break he told journalists: "It is clear that Mrs Thatcher has only an extremely small will to give the necessary concessions. The British way of negotiation is disappointing, and not very European."

But there were signs that President Mitterrand was well aware that a permanent system for enforcing control of the Community expenditure is a

British demand which cannot be side-stepped. He told his colleagues that it was important to find a balance between budgetary discipline and the increase in spending which other members all want.

Although the British Government, to its annoyance, was still being seen yesterday as out of step with its partners, the Irish too found themselves isolated. Dr Garret FitzGerald, the Taoiseach, has found little sympathy so far for his demand that Ireland should be allowed to go on increasing its milk production without restraint.

His best hope would seem to be that if the major problems are settled the others will go on increasing its milk production without restraint.

His best hope seem to be that if the major problems are settled the others will go some way to meet him in a fit of generosity.

Letter from Brussels

Britain remains a Euro-outsider

The Belgian had an old, lined face pierced by two washed blue eyes which had seen his country twice occupied in war. The discreet purple rosette of his Order of Leopold gave his words an added authority.

"The trouble with the British," he said, "is that they have never been conquered. They do not understand what it means to live in fear of an occupying army. They do not know how the soul of a nation changes when that happens."

The conversation had turned, as it inevitably seems to in Brussels these days, to the crisis facing the EEC. In this one-company town it is difficult, if not impossible, to sustain a conversation for long without talking shop.

Mention the British case or Mrs Thatcher and the conversation can turn nasty. "If you go on like this you will wreck it," said the man with the washed blue eyes. "You just don't seem to realize that it has brought us peace."

Between the wars, he explained, nobody ever spoke of the Germans. "For us they were just the *salet Boches*". But after the last war he could not remember his countrymen talking of Germans in that way. They had become partners with them in a new community, which had made war unthinkable.

This kind of nostalgic idealism is still widespread among the EEC leaders, particularly in the founding countries. Five of the six - France is the only exception - still dream of federalism, and have never wanted to use a veto even on grounds of "vital national interest".

Thus, though Mrs Thatcher has attended more summits than any of the other heads of government sitting round the table in Brussels she is still seen as something of a new girl.

Viscount Etienne Davignon, the man Britain seems likely to support as next President of the European Commission, summed up the problem yesterday.

"Mrs Thatcher does not belong to the generation of the founders of Europe," he said. "She has not known post-war Europe. She does not understand the situation of a country divided like Germany. She is not part of a European movement like the Italians."

For all these reasons, as well as the age-old prejudices and

facts of history, Britain remains very much the outsider of the EEC, despite more than a decade of membership, during which it has won no thanks for paying a considerable number of bills.

According to a very senior Commission civil servant (French), there are two crucially important dates in European history. The first was June 18, 1815, when at Waterloo Britain put an end to "the first serious attempt to unify Europe". The second was January 1, 1973, when Britain joined the EEC and began to put an end to "the second serious attempt to unify Europe".

That thought led some French journalists last week to suggest that perhaps the summit meeting should be moved a few miles down the road for a rerun on the Waterloo battlefield. France is confident that it has more allies now than it did 169 years ago.

"For while the *Sun* went 'frog-bashing' earlier this year, France collected a list of sympathy from its old partners, all of whom live in nervous awe of 'the Iron Maiden'."

Yesterday's Marplan opinion poll proved that it was not only the French who felt that way. This showed Britain as easily the least constructive nation in Europe, while the West Germans appeared to be everyone's favourite.

A rival Gallup poll showed that only one Briton out of four would now vote to stay inside the EEC, even though Mrs Thatcher claims that the last general election put the question of Britain's membership out of court.

The opinion poll is a useful weapon to the British leader, because she can, and doubtless will, brandish it as proof that she cannot accept a deal which the British Parliament, as representative of the people, would reject.

Viscount Davignon showed that he understood this problem. "Mrs Thatcher has an enormous internal political problem, the British budget contribution," he conceded. "She is a European of the second generation, with a pride in Europe, in its autonomy and capacity to act. I wouldn't say she is motivated by the classic European tradition, but I believe that she would prefer it to work."

Ian Murray

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

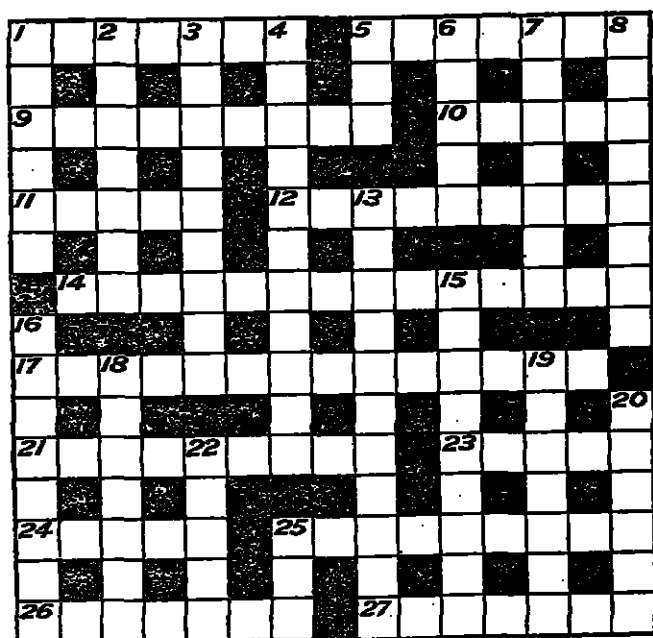
Today's events

Royal engagements

The Queen holds an investiture at Buckingham Palace, 11. The Duke of Edinburgh attends the annual general meeting of the Central Council of Physical Recreation at Fishmongers' Hall, EC4, 11: and later, as Patron of the Paediatric Research Unit's Generation Trust, visits the Unit Guy's Hospital Medical School, SE1, 4.45. Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother attends a reception with music given in aid of the Aldeburgh

Foundation at St James's Palace, 7.55. Princess Margaret attends a concert at the Royal Albert Hall in aid of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds' Woodland Bird Survival Campaign, 7.20. The Duchess of Kent, as Patron, visits the Camphill Village Trust, Newnham, Gloucestershire, 11.30, and later visits the National Star Centre for Disabled Youth at Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, 2.50. New exhibitions: Doon F Toon; Aerdeen Art Galleries, School Hill, Aberdeen.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,383

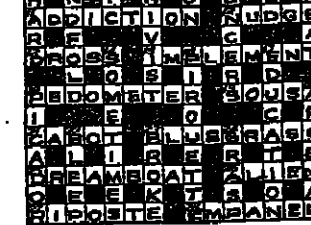


ACROSS

- 1 A day of pranks - or one by deduction (1,6).
- 5 Dress at home (7).
- 9 The Glamis version of old monuments (9).
- 10 From beginning to end the river is blue (5).
- 11 Miss Alice, entertaining Frank in style (5).
- 12 Contemplates two points with maps (9).
- 17 More than an inkling that Pompeii wasn't (5,9).
- 21 Shower - tea upset at all? (9).
- 23 Nothing true? Not true. Odd! (5).
- 24 What was beyond Geo Washington (5).
- 25 Gun to be fired in church in Derbyshire town (9).
- 26 Pierced ear in hurried grasp (7).
- 27 Waves ahead of a cutter (7).

DOWN

- 2 Distribute aims to nearly all (6).
- 3 Orderly's uniform (7).
- 4 About debauchery in a pub? (2,7).
- 6 What is to be will be. But when? (2,3,6).
- 8 Hums first, then shilly-shalies (3).
- 10 Insolence of some music-makers (5).
- 12 Breath-taking Indian religious practice (7).
- 14 Loved one may be buried (8).
- 15 Abuses of virtue - a step needing correction (11).
- 16 Ache, perhaps, for what lovers love (4,5).
- 18 Wanders round the barrier with docks (8).
- 19 Think about a lake as iridescent (7).
- 20 Result in error - now then! (7).
- 22 Useless fellow in a short coat (6).
- 24 Dear money in America (5).
- 25 Mother gets up in a fury (3).



Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Thurs 10 to 8, Sun 2 to 5 (ends April 6). Embroidered samplers drawn from the County Museum's textile collection. Stafford Museum and Art Gallery, The Green, Stafford; Tues to Fri 10 to 5, Sat 10 to 4, closed Sun & Mon (ends April 23). Jim Woods & James Holland, Watercolours, Donald Bowen Drawings, and Connie Brazier, engraved glass, Europa Gallery, Central Library, St Nicholas Way, Sutton, Surrey; Tues to Fri 9.30 to 5, Sat 9.30 to 5, closed Sun & Mon (ends March 31).

Watercolours by J. M. W. Turner, Fitzwilliam Museum, Trumpington Street, Cambridge; Tues to Sat 10 to 4.30, Sun 2.15 to 4.50 (ends May 23).

Music

Recital by Charles Tomlinson, Raymond Warren and the University of Bristol Singers, Arncliffe, Narrow Quay, Bristol 8. Recital by Cotham Grammar School, Colston Hall, Colston Street, Bristol, 7.30. Easter Concert Rowe Valley Choir, Linsavay Technical College, Northern Ireland, 14.5. Organ recital by Andrew Shaw, St Ann's Church, Manchester, 12.45.

Recital by Neeme Jarvi and Peter Donohoe, Birmingham Town Hall, Birmingham, 7.30.

Organ recital by Karl Hochreiter, Leeds Town Hall, Leeds, 1.05.

Talks, lectures

Contrasting perspectives on productivity bargaining: managers and union officials in the Post Office, by Dr. P. J. Blyden, 2.00. Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, 32 Old Elvet, Durham City, 4.15.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Debate on PAC reports. Lords (2.30): Telecommunications Bill, report, third day.

The week's walks

Wednesday: Riverside Pubs, Prisons & Hidden Paths, meet St Paul's Underground, 7.30. Legal London including a visit to the Old Bailey, Inns of Court, Royal Courts of Justice, etc, meet St Paul's Underground, 7.30. Legal London including a visit to the Old Bailey, Inns of Court, Royal Courts of Justice, etc, meet St Paul's Underground, 7.30. Legal London including a visit to the Old Bailey, Inns of Court, Royal Courts of Justice, etc, meet St Paul's Underground, 7.30.

TV top ten

National ten television programmes in the week ending March 11. 1. It's All About The Night, LWT, 16.50m. 2. The Great British Bake Off, Granada, 15.45m. 3. Day Five, Yorkshire, 15.40m. 4. The Great British Bake Off, Granada, 15.45m. 5. The Great British Bake Off, Granada, 15.45m. 6. The Great British Bake Off, Granada, 15.45m. 7. The Great British Bake Off, Granada, 15.45m. 8. The Great British Bake Off, Granada, 15.45m. 9. The Great British Bake Off, Granada, 15.45m. 10. The Great British Bake Off, Granada, 15.45m.

Roads

Wales and West: A381/A385: Temporary traffic lights at Brutus. A478: 24-hr temporary traffic signals on Bulih Wells-Llysven road at Erwood. A381: Single-lane traffic at junction of Wolborough/Highweek Streets, temporary signals. Midlands and East Angles: A449: Traffic signals on Worcester-Malvern road at Powick. A18: Traffic signals along St Mary's Street, Cambridge. A34: Contraflow on Stone-Newton road at Strongford, Staffordshire. North: M6: Lanes closed on both sides between junctions 20 and 21 at Thelwall Viaduct, Cheshire, A57. Only one lane in use at Llandrillo. One lane between Sheffield and Worksop, South Yorkshire. A69: North of Denton Square, Newcastle, Tyne and Wear. Reconstruction in westbound lane. Scotland: M9: Contraflow between junction 9 (M80) and A811 over bridge (south of Stirling). M8: Westbound closures between junctions 15 (Townshead) and 18 (Charing Cross, Glasgow). Diversions signed, avoid. A775: One lane and temporary lights between Newhouse (A73) and Holytown, Lanarkshire. Information supplied by AA.

Anniversaries

Births: Ovid, (Salmon, Italy), 43 BC. Jean-Antoine Henckes, sculptor, Versailles, 1741; Henrik Ibsen, Skien, Norway, 1828; Sergey Rachmaninov (new style April 1), Senyovskoy, 1873. Deaths: Henry Howard, 1399-1413. London, 1413; Sir Isaac Newton, (new style 31st), London, 1727; Lajos Kossuth, Hungarian nationalist, Turin, 1894; George Curzon of Kedleston, 1st Marquess of Curzon of Kedleston, Viceroy of India, 1898-1905, London, 1925; Ferdinand Foch, Marshal of France, Paris, 1929; Henry Handel Richardson (pseudonym of Ethel Florence Richardson), Australian novelist, Fairlight, Sussex, 1946.

The pound

	Bank	Bank
Australia \$	1.57	1.49
Austria Sch	28.05	26.45
Belgium F	36.00	34.00
Canada \$	1.19	1.12
Denmark Kr	14.44	13.74
Finland Mmk	5.45	5.15
France F	6.46	6.24
Germany DM	3.92	3.74
Greece Dr	162.00	152.00
Hong Kong \$	11.65	11.05
Ireland Pt	1.29	1.23
Italy Lira	2425.00	2325.00
Japan Yen	344.00	324.00
Netherlands Gld	11.40	10.80
Norway Kr	11.40	10.80
Portugal Esc	196.00	186.00
Spain Ptas	166.00	156.00
Sweden Kr	11.73	11.13
Switzerland Fr	3.25	3.08
USA \$	1.48	1.43
Yugoslavia Dnr	189.00	179.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank. Retail Price Index: 344.0. London: The FT Index closed down 11.2 at 883.1.

Weather

Pressure will remain slack over the British Isles as a frontal trough becomes slow moving to W of Scotland. 6 am to midnight. London, East Angles, E, W Midlands: Any fog patches clearing, some sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). SE, SW, central S England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). W Wales, NW England, Lake District: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). N Wales, NE England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). S Wales, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). W Wales, NW England, Lake District: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). N Wales, NE England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). S Wales, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). W Wales, NW England, Lake District: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). N Wales, NE England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). S Wales, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). W Wales, NW England, Lake District: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). N Wales, NE England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). S Wales, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). W Wales, NW England, Lake District: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). N Wales, NE England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). S Wales, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). W Wales, NW England, Lake District: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). N Wales, NE England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). S Wales, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). W Wales, NW England, Lake District: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). N Wales, NE England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). S Wales, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). W Wales, NW England, Lake District: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). N Wales, NE England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). S Wales, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). W Wales, NW England, Lake District: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). N Wales, NE England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). S Wales, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). W Wales, NW England, Lake District: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). N Wales, NE England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). S Wales, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). W Wales, NW England, Lake District: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). N Wales, NE England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). S Wales, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). W Wales, NW England, Lake District: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). N Wales, NE England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). S Wales, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). W Wales, NW England, Lake District: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). N Wales, NE England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). S Wales, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). W Wales, NW England, Lake District: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). N Wales, NE England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). S Wales, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). W Wales, NW England, Lake District: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). N Wales, NE England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). S Wales, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). W Wales, NW England, Lake District: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). N Wales, NE England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). S Wales, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). W Wales, NW England, Lake District: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). N Wales, NE England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). S Wales, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). W Wales, NW England, Lake District: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). N Wales, NE England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). S Wales, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). W Wales, NW England, Lake District: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). N Wales, NE England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). S Wales, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). W Wales, NW England, Lake District: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). N Wales, NE England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). S Wales, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). W Wales, NW England, Lake District: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). N Wales, NE England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). S Wales, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). W Wales, NW England, Lake District: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). N Wales, NE England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). S Wales, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). W Wales, NW England, Lake District: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). N Wales, NE England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). S Wales, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). W Wales, NW England, Lake District: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). N Wales, NE England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). S Wales, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). W Wales, NW England, Lake District: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). N Wales, NE England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). S Wales, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). W Wales, NW England, Lake District: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). N Wales, NE England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). S Wales, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). W Wales, NW England, Lake District: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). N Wales, NE England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). S Wales, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). W Wales, NW England, Lake District: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). N Wales, NE England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). S Wales, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). W Wales, NW England, Lake District: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). N Wales, NE England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). S Wales, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). W Wales, NW England, Lake District: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). N Wales, NE England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). S Wales, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). W Wales, NW England, Lake District: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). N Wales, NE England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). S Wales, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). W Wales, NW England, Lake District: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). N Wales, NE England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to 9C (45F to 48F). S Wales, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, mainly dry, light E light; max temp 8C to